

Returning to understanding

❑ After 50-plus years of hearing disability, Flaherty can comprehend once again

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – Mouths moved, noises were made, and nothing was understood.

This describes what Jim Flaherty went through every time he turned on a television, he had the radio on in his truck, or when he was talking with friends or family for over 50 years.

Flaherty, 78, who lived in Cherry for the first three years of his life before moving to Mendota and graduating from Mendota High School in 1963, was infantry in the Vietnam War.

During his stint on the front lines in Vietnam, he began to lose his hearing.

“Army infantry in the Vietnam War means a lot of noise,” said Flaherty. “There were airstrikes. Those airplanes and the guns make a lot of noise. At the same time, there were machine guns and explosions on the ground.

“I primarily fired machine guns in Vietnam. My hearing loss was a combination of that and I was hit on the side of the face. I don’t know what it was. It could have been anything from an explosion that flew through the air. My teeth were knocked out.

“My hearing was eventually affected. When you’re in the middle of a



Cochlear implants have helped restore hearing for Jim Flaherty after more than 50 years of hearing disability. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

war, it’s day-to-day survival. You’re not really paying attention to if you hear everything or not. But right afterward and for many years afterward, I noticed.”

Along the way, Flaherty had a brain tumor, radiation and has gone through five head surgeries featuring five metal components placed on his skull.

“If you’re wondering why my hearing isn’t working properly, it’s no surprise to me,” joked Flaherty. “My friends would say, ‘It’s a good thing they hit you in the head, they could have killed you.’”

Flaherty wanted to hear properly. Edward Hines, Jr. Veterans Affairs Hospital near Chicago wanted to help him improve his hearing.

After testing, understanding options, and Flaherty agreeing, a cochlear implant was surgically implanted into his right ear on Aug. 12, 2021.

“Jim has had hearing loss for 50-plus years, but he’s been a hearing aid patient for years before he got his cochlear implants,” said Dr. Melissa Welch, who wasn’t the VA surgeon who placed the implants, but was the VA audiologist who saw, tested, and spoke with Flaherty regularly through the process. “Patients will start with hearing aids and in the beginning they typically feel like they do OK. As they get older and the hearing aids don’t provide as much benefit, they begin to struggle more. Right before he got the implants, he was wearing one hearing aid in his better ear and a cross microphone in his opposite ear. That was because it didn’t comprehend speech at that point. It had gotten so bad that a traditional hearing aid wouldn’t work.

“Although we told him implants may return 70-percent understanding if it worked and there was a possibility of it not working, he was receiving zero percent with a hearing

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Mendota H.S. hires 2 new administrators

❑ Assistant principal, athletic director named

MENDOTA – Mendota Township High School will welcome two current teachers into administrative roles for the 2023-2024 school year.

Nicole Cromwell, who has been a science teacher at MHS and will begin her 17th year in education, was employed as assistant principal. She will replace Joe Masini, who is now serving as the principal.



Cromwell

“I am excited about the opportunity to step into the new role of assistant principal, as it allows me to serve students in a different capacity and make a positive impact on their educational journey,” stated Cromwell.

MHS Superintendent Denise Aughenbaugh believes Cromwell will bring a range of expertise into her new administrative role.

“Ms. Cromwell has experience managing and working in the business sector for several years as a chemist. Her teaching experience expands from middle school through high school, and she is one to support students and teachers throughout the building. We look forward to her joining our administrative team.”

Brock Zinke is the new athletic director at Mendota High School. He has taught

and coached at MHS since 2013. Zinke has taught in the Social Studies and Driver’s Education Departments, serves as the Driver’s Education Department Chair, is the district’s Instructional Coach, and he has coached multiple MHS sports – baseball, softball, football,

and wrestling. Zinke replaces Steve Hanson, whose resignation was accepted by the District 280

Board at a special meeting on July 20. Hanson left MHS to become the athletic director at LaSalle-Peru High School.

“Brock brings a great deal of leadership and experience to the MHS Athletic Department,” said Aughenbaugh. “He knows Mendota High School as a former student-athlete and alumni, teacher, and coach. Brock has a great purpose and drive to work with students, athletes, coaches, parents, and community members to lead Trojan athletics to the next level. We look forward to him joining the administrative team.”

Zinke is a 2007 graduate of MHS. In addition to his duties as athletic director, he will continue to teach part time and coach football.

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11 contestants busily preparing for Sweet Corn Queen Pageant

❑ 2023 queen and attendants will be decided on Aug. 11

MENDOTA – Eleven young women are busily preparing for this year’s Sweet Corn Festival Queen Pageant, which will be held on Friday, Aug. 11 beginning at 7:30 p.m. The pageant will take place on the First State Bank stage on U.S. 34 in downtown Mendota.

Singer-guitarist Andrew Bloomquist will provide pre-pageant entertainment beginning at 6:45 p.m., and will return to the stage while the judges are deciding who will wear the crown for 2023.

Let’s introduce four more contestants in this year’s pageant.

Kendall Biers has been chosen to represent Mendota VFW Post #4079 in this year’s pageant. She is the daughter of Kevin and Stacie Biers. She is five feet, seven inches tall, and has brown hair and green eyes.

Biers graduated from Mendota High School in December of 2022. During her time at MHS, she was a member of the MHS football and basketball cheer squad for all four years, serving as captain for two years. She was a six-semester high honor roll student and an All American cheerleader for two years. She was also recognized by the Three Rivers Conference as an Academic All-Conference student.

This summer, Biers is working at Skoog’s Pub and Grill in Utica as a waitress. In her

spare time, she enjoys fishing, shopping, lying outside, and spending time with her family and friends. She also loves to spend time with kids and is very interested in learning more about how their minds work.

This past spring, Biers started school at Western Governors University to pursue a bachelor’s degree in finance. She plans to get a job and start a family after college.

Riley Cocanour is being sponsored by the Point Guard Club in this year’s pageant. She is the daughter of Wesley and Maricia Cocanour of Mendota. Riley stands at five feet, seven inches tall with blonde hair and blue eyes.

She is a 2023 graduate of Mendota High School. While at MHS, Cocanour was a member of the cheerleading squads, choir, show choir, the Madrigal singers, and band. While in band she got to march on Main Street at Disney World. She also attended the TRAC festival for choir and performed in the musical Little Shop of Horrors as well.

In the spring, Cocanour plans on attending IVCC then continuing on to NIU to get her bachelor’s degree in education to become an elementary teacher. She loves playing

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Candidates for the title of 2023 Sweet Corn Festival Queen, left to right, are Mia Raya, Kendall Biers, Riley Cocanour and Isabelle Escatel. (Photo contributed)



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LOCAL AND AREA

Teeing off for engagement

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

EARLVILLE – Many rough drafts had been written.

Thankfully, to save paper and erasers, they were figuratively written as Dylan Limon tried to blueprint the best way to ask his girlfriend, Taylor Weymouth, to marry him.

All of the ideas were thrown out the window when the engagement ring arrived. Instead, he decided to wing it at one of the couple's favorite places, the Earlville Country Club.

"I really like golfing and it's something Taylor and I do together a lot. I always try to drag her along with me," said Limon. "I needed a plan to get her out of the house because I had her family coming from Iowa to meet at my house for a surprise engagement party. It just seemed perfect because she wouldn't think it was any different from any other Saturday. It worked out. I can't complain about anything."

Limon, a 2019 Sandwich High School graduate who is part of a sheet metal union and specializes in architectural sheet metal, isn't a planner.

On Friday, July 7, 2023, the day before he proposed, he made calls to friends and family, of both his and hers, telling them to be at his house

on Saturday and Taylor and him would arrive after he popped the question at the golf course.

The bride-to-be is still shocked he planned it and it was pulled off.

"I was astounded that everyone knew about it and no one spilled. I had no idea that he was going to propose to me that day," said Weymouth, a 2019 Earlville High School graduate who is an instructional assistant working with students with emotional disorder at DeKalb High School. "We had obviously talked about the possibility of getting married like every couple does, but I had no idea that he was going to do it this soon. It was nice that after we left the golf course, we were able to share the moment with everyone on his side and on my side."

"It was just him and I on the golf course and he had everyone waiting at the house for after he asked me. We were on Hole No. 3. He teed off and he didn't hit a great ball."

Dylan chimes in, "I totally sliced it."

"He walked up to me while I was in the cart and told me to hit it. I asked, 'Why so you can play my ball if it goes farther?' Which it did. After I hit the ball, I turned around and he was down on



Dylan Limon and Taylor Weymouth have an engagement story like no one else. (Photo contributed by Kelsey Albright)

one knee."

The soon-to-be groom didn't plan for the slice or for Weymouth to hit her drive further, but he took advantage of the situation and the proper positioning to make his slice not look as bad.

"I would like to say I planned to slice, but I did not. It was probably the nerves," Limon said. "I was sweating bullets. I kept twisting the club in my hands."

"The day I proposed, July 8, was the day before our very first date last year, July 9. That wasn't planned; I just got lucky. This sounds terrible, but for as little planning as I

did because of my head being all over the place, everything just fell into place perfectly. This may sound crazy, but I knew I wanted to marry her on our first date."

The couple have a lot of events scheduled for the rest of the year, so they are not going to decide a date or begin wedding planning until January 2024.

This way they get to share family and friend's unions and events without their wedding planning on their minds, and they get to spotlight the best, worst slice ever to be had on the Earlville Country Club's Hole No. 3.

LaSalle Public Library's Teacher Book Giveaway

LaSALLE – It is that time of year again for the LaSalle Public Library's Teacher Book Giveaway.

Open to all teachers and informal educators, the giveaway will take place on Monday, July 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a variety of titles of picture and chapter books that can be used for all-class

reads or to supplement classroom libraries. First come, first serve. Please bring boxes and/or bags with you.

The LaSalle Public Library is located at 305 Marquette St., LaSalle, and is ADA compliant and welcoming. For more information, please call the Library at 815-223-2341.

Law soon requires new Illinois homes to include electric vehicle charging capabilities

By **ANDREW HENSEL**
The Center Square

SPRINGFIELD – A new law in Illinois soon requires electric vehicle charging stations in the garage of new or renovated homes. Critics say this will increase costs.

State Sen. Sara Feigenholtz, D-Chicago, filed Senate Bill 40 to keep Illinois on its path to having one million EVs on the roads by 2030. The bill was signed into law by Gov. J.B. Pritzker on June 9 with an effective date of Jan. 1, 2024.

In 2021, Pritzker signed the Reimagining Electric Vehicles in Illinois Act into law, which incentivizes EV production across the state. There are also state tax incentives for the purchase of electric vehicles.

State Rep. Robyn Gabel, D-Evanston, explained during House debates the benefits she sees in SB40.

"We know that approximately 80% of people charge their EVs at home," Gabel said. "This bill will ensure that Illinois residents can do just that."

The measure passed the Illinois Senate in March with a vote of 39-16. The House approved the bill in May with a vote of 60-38. Much of the conversation focused on the project's potential costs to

consumers.

State Rep. Travis Weaver, R-Edwards, asked why downstate residents need this when numbers show a low amount of EV drivers in those downstate communities.

"If less than 1% of cars on the roads are EVs and less than 0.1% of cars in my district are EVs, I just don't see why we are having people in downstate Illinois pay for this infrastructure," Weaver said.

Within 90 days of the effective date of the act, all large multifamily building permits shall require all parking to be EV-capable. Two years after the effective date, there are similar requirements on other residential buildings.

Gabel said the cost would be under \$1,000 for the setup in these homes. However, state Rep. Dan Swanson, R-Alpha, said other costs are not accounted for.

"It requires a 200-amp service," Swanson said. "That will require additional costs because most houses do not have a 200-amp service."

The measure also allows landlords to charge a security deposit to cover the costs of restoring the property to its original condition if the tenant removes the electric vehicle charging system.

Glassman educates how to preserve pickles Aug. 12 at IVCC

OGLESBY – Join Illinois Extension Nutrition and Wellness Educator, Susan Glassman and learn to preserve pickles in the water bath canner. Everyone will make and take home a jar of both sweet and dill pickles to enjoy. This workshop is for both beginners and experienced food preservers. Have fun working together in the kitchen and learn about safe food preservation methods. Class includes all the supplies and ingredients to make two jars of pickles, handouts, and recipes from Illinois Extension.

The upcoming class is Saturday, Aug. 12, from 9 a.m.-noon at Illinois Valley Community College Culinary Kitchen in the Peter Miller Community Technology Center at 815 N. Orlando Smith Road, Oglesby, Room CTC-123.

For more information, call Glassman at 815-224-0894. Program fees are \$15 per person, limited to 12 adults. Please register by Aug. 7, 2023, at: <https://go.illinois.edu/Picklesivcc> or by calling Illinois Extension's Main Office at 815-224-0889.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, contact Glassman at the above number. Extension offices are located in Princeton, Ottawa, Henry, and in Oglesby on the IVCC campus. The Mission of University of Illinois Extension is to provide practical education you can trust to help people, businesses and communities solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future. University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.



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These new providers will join Michael Harvey, MD, Kenneth Korcek, MD, also from OrthoIllinois, Kate Jaegle, APRN, Shannon Whitley, APRN, and Taylor Tuten, PA, in the OSF Medical Group – Orthopedic clinics. Appointments can be made by calling (815) 431-5746.

Walczynski will have copies of his book to purchase after the program concludes.

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Barbara J. Schumacher

LaSALLE – Barbara Jean Schumacher, 59, of LaSalle, passed unexpectedly at her home on July 19, 2023.

Funeral services were Monday, July 24, 2023, at 11 a.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Rev. Mary Bohall officiating. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation was Sunday, July 23 from 2-4 p.m. at the funeral home.

Barb was born Jan. 16, 1964, in Mendota to Richard and Donna (Park) Roman and was welcomed home by older sister, Rose. She married Brad Schumacher and together they had two children, Brooke Schumacher of Rockford, and Brandon Schumacher of La Moille.

Survivors include her children and their father; her sister, Rose (Terry) Wiesbrock of Fox Lake, Wis.; nephew Brad (Brenda) Grothen of Mendota; and beloved dog, Mikey.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Donna in 2022 and her father Richard in 1977.

She graduated from Mendota High School in 1982 and worked as an administrator for various companies throughout her career.

She leaves behind a love for animals she instilled in her son, an impeccable sense of humor instilled in her daughter, and a bond between the two like none other. Mom, your loss is immeasurable but "your love amazes me."

Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Pamela K. Robison

MENDOTA – Pamela Kay Robison, 75, of Mendota, passed away July 22, 2023, at her home surrounded by loved ones.

No services have been scheduled at this time. Private burial will take place at Restland Cemetery, Mendota.

Pam was born July 23, 1947, in North English, Iowa, to James B. Worrall and Ruth (West) Worrall. She attended high school in Iowa.

She married Jack Craig Robison on Nov. 10, 1983.

She is survived by her daughter, Sydney Kruse of St. Louis; granddaughter, Kirstie Bodie (Kyle) of Mendota; grandson Thomas Robison of Georgia; two stepchildren, Rhonda (Dennis) Haehn of Arizona and Michael (Kathy) Robison of Florida; one brother, Jeff Worrall (Rhonda) of Arkansas; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; and longtime friends, Tony and Margaret Rapp, of Mendota.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Robison in 2021; her parents, James and Ruth Worrall; brother, Ronald Worrall; and two grandsons.

Pam loved traveling, spending time with friends and family, gardening and art.

Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Harriet E. Kelchner

MENDOTA – Harriet E. (McGuire) Kelchner, 84, of Mendota, a beautiful mother, passed peacefully on July 19, 2023, with beloved family at her bedside.

Cremation rites have been accorded with a celebration of life at a later date.

She was born June 20, 1939. She married Roger Kelchner on May 31, 1958. She is the middle child of five children, born in Lee Center, growing up in Sublette and Amboy. She loved these towns with all her heart.

She is survived by her daughter Deborah; sons Daniel, Andrew and Roger; 17 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her son, Jamie; her son, Kelly; her daughter Veronica; her mom Ila McGuire Blevins and father Robert McGuire; her brothers, Vernon McGuire Bob McGuire and Bill McGuire; and her sister, Nettie McGuire.

She and her husband lived in Utica on Canal Street. Starved Rock was her favorite place in the world. She loved going there and looking for rocks and driftwood. She had gone there all her life.

Roger and Harriet had seven children. In 1960, she lost her first son, James, to pneumonia at three months old, a terrible loss she suffered her entire life. When they divorced, in 1976, she went on to raise her children on her own. She was strong and resilient. She had 17 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren. She had a most precious love for her niece Victoria, granddaughter Christine, and great-granddaughter Jalea.

Harriet's best friend in the world was her brother, Vernon. They loved each other so much.

Her love was yard sales having them all over the county talking to people and meeting new friends. They would become family for life and Amboy was her favorite yard sale spot at Chris Noble's house where she met her adopted granddaughter, Mio, whom she loved. She had the best times there it will never be forgotten.

She loved her animals, her dog Timber, and her cats. Her neighbors meant everything to her Juan and Martha, Wani, and Barb she loved each and everyone dearly and they loved her back. She lived in Savanna, Ill., from 1979 to 2007 and then moved to Mendota where she resided until her last days.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Online condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.



Daniel L. Randecker

MENDOTA – Daniel L. Randecker, 92 of Mendota, passed away peacefully in his home on July 23, 2023, surrounded by his family.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 11 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota with Vicar Anthony Windau officiating. Visitation will be at 10 a.m., prior to services. Burial will follow the service at the Lutheran Cemetery in Mendota with military honors by Mendota VFW Post 4079. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

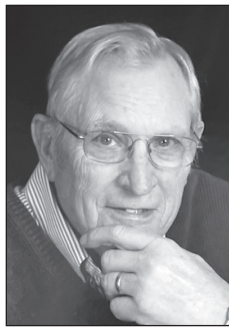
Daniel was born on Aug. 6, 1930, to Daniel and Louise (Zink) Randecker in Mount Carroll. He attended Pearl City schools and served in the Army during the Korean War. After returning, he was a dairy farmer. Then Daniel worked as a Teamster before becoming the owner-operator of Randecker Trucking.

He is survived by his wife Rita (Rogers) of 64 years; daughter Amy (Jeremy) Shapiro of Downers Grove; son, Jason (Michelle) Randecker of St. Louis, Mo.; three grandchildren, Noah Randecker and Ella and Norah Shapiro, and a sister, Twila Orth of Freeport.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Alice Croffoot, Wilma Hovorka and Mabel Boelk.

Daniel was a loving husband and father. He was a faithful member of St. John's Lutheran Church. He enjoyed time spent with family and friends. Fishing, hunting, traveling, gardening, mowing, birdwatching and relaxing with his cats were among his favorite pursuits.

Memorials can be directed to the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry. Condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



David C. Sondgeroth

MENDOTA – David (Whitey) C. Sondgeroth, 84, of Mendota, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on July 23, 2023, at OSF St. Anthony, Rockford.

The rosary will be said Friday, July 28, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. with visitation from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home in Mendota. Funeral services will directly follow with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery. The Rev. Jeffery Windy will officiate. Full military honors will be conducted by Mendota V.F.W. #4079.

David was born Nov. 12, 1938, in Mendota to Charles and Katherine (Walzer) Sondgeroth.

David is survived by his wife Joanne of 63 years; two daughters, Patty (Larry, deceased) Noles of Mendota, Chris (Steve) Finley of Utica; one son, Charles (Shannon) Sondgeroth of Killeen, Texas; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren, with one on the way.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, Lester, Robert, Gene, and Clifford Sondgeroth; three sisters, Bernice Corrigan, Rita Miller, and Pearl Blair; his parents and stepfather.

As a youth, he mowed cemetery property, set bowling pins, and worked on Waldorf farms before starting at H.K. Whipple Excavating. While working for H.K. Whipple, he met, then married, the love of his life, Joanne Christine Whipple, on Aug. 26, 1961, in Mendota.

He was drafted into the United States Army soon after and served honorably until his discharge December 1963. Following his time in the service, David resumed with H.K. Whipple, followed by hauling steel cross-country for Motor Wheel, then working locally for Reliable and Whittaker Excavating. David was a lifelong Teamster Local 150 member with a career in the trucking industry spanning over 50 years.

David was a skilled bowler, loved pitching horseshoes, and was an avid fisherman. Perhaps most notable was David's annual fish fry, a highly popular tradition that brought friends, family, and community together for many years. David was lifelong member of the Mendota Elks Lodge #1212, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4079, Mendota Moose Lodge and was a devoted lifetime member of Holy Cross Church.

Pallbearers include John Sondgeroth, Dru Sondgeroth, Warren Bauer, David Kilanowski Jr., Jeff Spanier, and Tom Corrigan. Honorary pallbearers include Roger Weitzel, David Kern, Denny Roling and Steve Finley.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Services or Holy Cross Church. Condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Fortune Phrase winner lands gift card

MENDOTA – Week Three of The Mendota Reporter's Fortune Phrase game is wrapped up and we have a winner. In a drawing of those who correctly guessed the phrase, the entry submitted by Eric Buland of Mendota was pulled and he receives a \$25 gift card from Sullivan's Foods.

The correct phrase was: "When At The County Fair, Look At All The 4-H Project."

The words were hidden in the following ads: When – Tri-County Fair (entering

the fair); At – Davis Family Health; The – The Mendota Reporter (garage sales); County – Maze Lumber; Fair – Sullivan's Foods; Look – JC's Headquarters; At – Tri-County Fair (kids zone); All – Mendota Area Senior Services; The – Mendota Farmers Market; 4-H – Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce (Sweet Corn Festival); Project – Setchell Agency.

Look in this week's Money Saver or Reporter for Week Four of the Fortune Phrase.

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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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.

A politician’s darker life

By Scott Reeder

The congressman was a crack addict. When I heard those words, I was flummoxed. It’s not that I found it difficult to believe that someone in public life had a substance abuse problem.



Reeder

During my 35 years covering politics, I’ve seen politicians drunk while debating legislation. And I’ve seen them holed up in their offices drinking when they were supposed to be legislating.

But the phone call I had last week from Terry Schilling, a son of former U.S. Rep. Bobby Schilling, left me stunned. He said his dad spent much of the 1980s hooked on crack cocaine.

I was astonished because I had never heard even a whisper of this when he was running for and holding public office. And campaigns are when the klieg lights come on and skeletons come dancing out of the closets.

“My dad was a recovering drug addict and a recovering alcoholic. He was always very private about it because he didn’t want to be defined by the mistakes of his past. He wanted people to judge him for what he had become and his accomplishments,” Terry said.

I can appreciate the congressman wanting to keep his past quiet. But what amazes me is that he succeeded.

In 2010, Bobby Schilling, a Republican, defeated incumbent Democrat Phil Hare by 10 points in the 17th Congressional District, which then twisted across western and central Illinois. Two years later Schilling lost re-election to Democrat Cheri Bustos and she beat him again in a 2014 rematch.

Every campaign has whispers. Labels like “skirt chaser,” “drunk” or “in the closet” are affixed to candidates as if they were third graders with “kick me” signs stuck to their backs.

But with Schilling the only whisper I heard was “family guy.”

Schilling presented himself to voters as a hardworking father of 10 who owned a Moline pizzeria.

At the time I thought Schilling was smarmy. But if smarminess were an impeachable offense, Congress would never have a quorum.

My dad once heard him speak and thought he was the most swell politician ever. He won him over by telling him how much he admired his son’s column. (So maybe he should have worn the label “shameless.”)

Neither I, nor as far as I know, any other reporter, had a clue about Schilling’s darker past.

“He was in high school when the crack epidemic was happening and they really suckered these young guys into it. ... This is before we really knew how bad crack was for people and how addictive it was. And he just got caught up.”

A pregnant Christie Schilling, would haul Terry and two of his siblings from tavern to tavern looking for her husband, Bobby. He’d go missing for three days.

Finally, she gave Bobby an ultimatum: Her or the drugs.

Christie filed for divorce in Rock Island County but didn’t follow through after he cleaned up his act. She credited his recovery to a treatment program at the former Mercy Hospital in Davenport, Iowa, his Catholic faith and Narcotics Anonymous.

The Narcotics Anonymous meetings were a worry. What if someone attending a meeting broke a confidence? “He had a lot of Democrat friends from NA. And politics makes people irrational and do things that they wouldn’t normally do,” Terry said.

While working on his father’s campaign Terry asked what their contingency plan should be if word of his past drug use leaked.

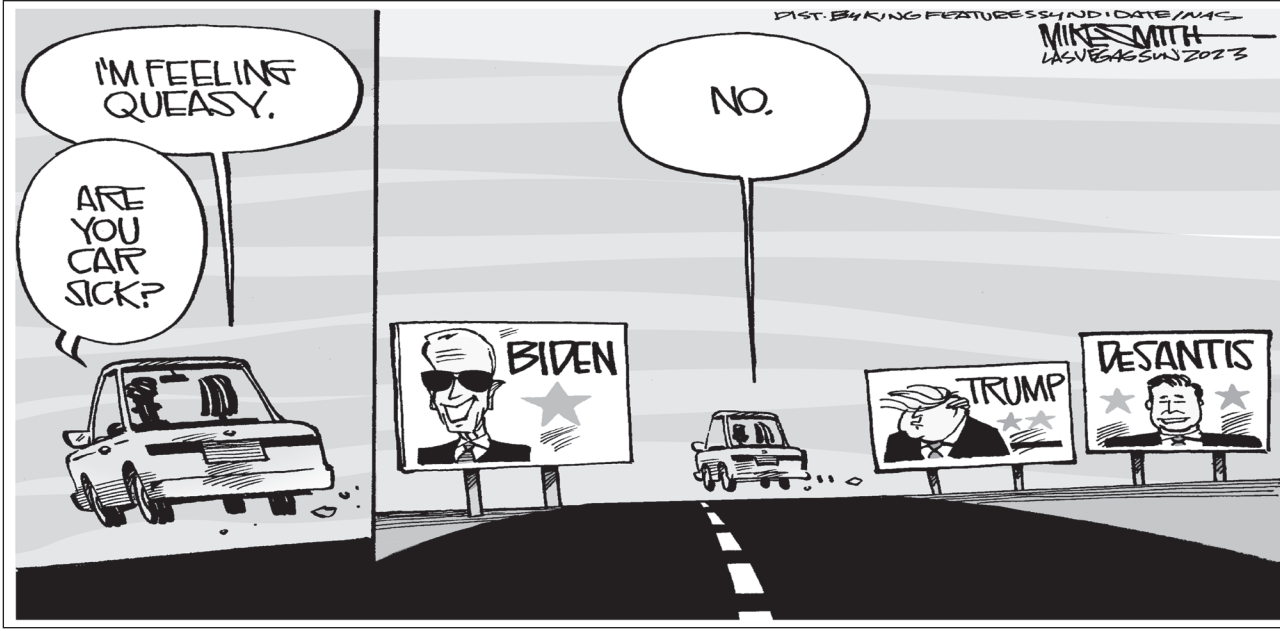
“I said, ‘You know, you could do the George (W.) Bush route where he really talked about this openly and used it as a positive thing for how he turned his life around. And he just, didn’t want to make (the campaign) about that. I said, ‘Well, what are you going to do if it gets brought up anyway?’ And he said we’d just acknowledge it, we’d tell the truth and we’d say, you know, that was stuff that I struggled with in my twenties and I turned my life around.”

After moving to LeClaire, Iowa, Bobby Schilling made another bid for Congress in 2020, this time in Iowa’s 2nd Congressional District. But he was defeated in the GOP primary. He died in 2021 of intestinal cancer at age 57.

Both Christie and Terry said they want to inspire others with Bobby’s life. They are considering writing a book.

“He gave his life to God and his family,” Terry said. “And he died a former member of Congress, a successful business guy who everyone really loves. And he has 10 kids surrounding his bedside praying for him and thanking God out loud for him when he dies.”

(Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times can be reached at sreeder@illinoistimes.com.)



Office of the city clerk – 1925

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from July 26, 1995.)

By Jessica Nashold

It was in July 1925 that the city of Mendota advertised for bids on an addition to the Firemen’s & Police Headquarters. The addition was to be 24 feet wide and extend to a depth of the main building. It would be two stories in height but the upper floor would not immediately be finished off.

The new addition would house the city clerk’s office. In 1925, the clerk had a room in the rear of the Farmer’s & Merchant’s State Bank. Behind the clerk’s office in the new addition would be a room for committee meetings, which were at the time being held in “someone’s office” – depending on who was on the committee.

A large safe in the police station would be changed around. The safe door opening into the station would be sealed off and a new door created opening into the clerk’s office.

It is believed this addition can be built for \$5,000 or less.

Mendota’s first automatic “stop and go” traffic post was installed at the corner of 13th Avenue and Washington Street by the Essco Manufacturing Co. of Peoria.

Traffic is very busy at this point as it is the intersection of the two state cement roads.

The post was to have a 90-day trial.

Nearly all Mendota businesses arranged to have holes drilled in the cement in front of their stores to hold poles for the display of American flags.

The placing of the flags was completed on Wednesday (July 29) and that flags were floating in the breeze.

This project was sponsored by the Mendota Post of American Legion.

The Brady farm of 62 acres west of Mendota was auctioned in August 1925. During July, an effort was made to form a group to buy it for a Mendota golf course. The Reporter observed –

Plenty of men would like to join a Mendota Golf Club and pay their membership fee as is charged at other places.

Although the Brady purchase was not made, interest in golf continued.

Backtracks & Sidetracks

Before the end of the year, golf was being played in Black’s pasture.

A committee was at work to find a suitable site for the H.D. Conkey factory following a destructive fire at its downtown Mendota location on July 8, 1925. At first, F.E. Cavell was unwilling to part with acreage at the south end of 13th Avenue. So, a compromise combination of property belonging to Mrs. Kasper and a few acres from Julius Waldorf was considered.

The committee working to raise funds for purchase of the property included Dr. A.C. McIntyre, R.N. Crawford, E.P. Fassett, S.C. Haskell, F.J. Schwarz, Judge B. Harry Reck, D.L. Barnett, M.J. Elsesser, Fim Murra, Jacob Huss, Mayor Ralph Madden, Robert Allen, C.E. Bates, Dr. B.N. Hughes, R.E. Beebe, George E. Blanchard.

The one desire in mind is that this factory must be saved for Mendota and be retained here.

In September 1925, Cavell offered eight acres next to the Burlington tracks at \$800 per acre.

He did not want to be the one that would keep the factory from remaining in Mendota.

The Reporter pointed out that in progressive cities, the citizens “do not look for \$10 in return for every 10 cents they spend.”

This may be the turning point. This may mean far greater and better growth in Mendota.

Building began in November 1925.

Kiwanis members enjoyed a picnic at Snyder’s Grove on July 23, 1925, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Ball teams captained by D.L. Barnett and Frank Fritz played to a Barnett 13-12 victory. Some excitement was generated when Dr. J.C. Corbus hit a home run but had to stop at second base with a “Charley Horse.” His leg was bandaged by Drs. McIntyre and Cook after which he remained in his car. He was not even able to drive himself home that evening.

It was at this picnic that Robert

Conkey, Kenneth B. Butler and Rev. Townsend, pastor of the Presbyterian church, were welcomed as new members of Kiwanis.

George W. Frey was in charge of refreshments.

Announcement was made that the Peoples’ Store had been sold by the Burlingames to John J. Westerman of Beloit, Wis. Westerman had arrived in Mendota with his wife and son the week of July 23, 1925.

He is an experienced man in this line and anticipates a pleasant business relationship in Mendota.

The Peoples’ Store sold housewares and novelties as well as garments in 1925.

The Inderrieden Canning Factory was lining up workers for the pack expected to start about Aug. 20. Manager was John P. Hoffman, who said between 1,100 and 1,200 acres of sweet corn had been planted in this locality.

It is expected many men and women will assist in the canning of the corn, working late into the night, as the corn must be canned the day it is brought in to get best results.

Purity Ice Cream Co. advertised pure artificial ice. They said it was frozen steam made from water taken from a deep well at Peru. It was brought to Mendota each day and could be obtained at the Purity plant during the day, Sunday included, or would be delivered.

It is safe to use in cold drinks.

Eckert & Ray bought the Armour Elevators along the Burlington railroad. Manager James L. O’Neill would be retained as manager. The elevators had 200,000 bushel capacity for storing and cleaning grain.

In a game between the Peru Americans and the LaSalle Orioles, George Elsesser Jr., better known as Chutch, pitched for a 10-5 win by Peru.

He twirled the entire game, secured seven strikeouts and walked only one man.

Chutch had started a team in Mendota that year, but his inability to find a diamond for home games made it impossible to continue.

The military doesn’t need diversity, equity and inclusion

By Rich Lowry

House Republicans voted to end diversity, equity and inclusion programs and personnel at the Pentagon, and one wonders whether the U.S. military will ever be the same.

The provision was one of a number of anti-“woke” measures in the House-passed National Defense Authorization Act -- including reversing the Pentagon’s new abortion-enabling paid travel and leave policies -- that have occasioned sputtering outrage.

According to National Security Council spokesman John Kirby, there’s no way that President Joe Biden would ever sign such legislation “that would put our troops at greater risk or put our readiness at risk.”

America’s leaders used to worry that we wouldn’t have enough stopping power to defend against Soviet tanks potentially pouring through the Fulda Gap or a survivable nuclear force in the event of a nuclear first strike; now they worry servicemembers might not be learning enough about microaggressions.

Last year, Bishop Garrison, serving at the time as the senior advisor to the Secretary of Defense for human capital and diversity, equity and inclusion, said that diversity, equity and inclusion needs to be part of every decision that the military makes -- it’s a “force multiplier,” and will make the military more lethal.

It’s not clear how this could possibly be true. Is the Marine operating a howitzer going to be more proficient if he’s familiar with the work of Ibram X. Kendi? Will our fighter pilots be better at aerial warfare if they think the U.S. is defined by systemic racism? Are our submariners lacking so long as they don’t know that it’s supposedly offensive to ask someone with an accent where he or she is from?

If diversity training is so crucial to a fighting force, maybe we should stop sending so many munitions to Ukraine and ship the embattled country PowerPoint presentations on equity instead?

The U.S. military has been a model for decades of how to build a racially diverse institution that is united by common purpose and standards. That doesn’t mean it is perfect -- nothing is -- but it was notably diverse long before anyone thought it needed diversity, equity and inclusion training.

Thankfully, by its standards, the Pentagon doesn’t spend

much on diversity, equity and inclusion. It requested just \$115 million in 2023, although that was an increase of nearly \$30 million.

This suggests that the personnel and programming around diversity, equity and inclusion can be easily axed, and they should be.

Diversity, equity and inclusion is a scammy fad that has ballooned into a more than \$3 billion industry even though there’s no solid evidence that it works, and it may well make things worse.

As the left-of-center author and podcaster Jesse Singal writes, diversity, equity and inclusion programs often “seem geared more toward sparking a revolutionary re-understanding of race relations than solving organizations’ specific problems. And they often blame white people -- or their culture -- for harming people of color.”

Why does the military, of all institutions, need that?

At the very least, diversity, equity and inclusion is another administrative burden. A recent report on the fighting culture of the U.S. Navy prepared at the direction of Arkansas Sen. Tom Cotton and several Republican congressmen noted that “non-combat curricula consume Navy resources, clog inboxes, create administrative quagmires, and monopolize precious training time.”

At worst, it is injecting a poisonous ideology into a fighting force that needs to look past racial and other divisions and needs to believe in this country’s worth.

Those who want diversity, equity and inclusion in the armed forces either can’t distinguish between the military and an elite liberal arts college, or want it to be corrupted by the same rotten ideas.

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries said the National Defense Authorization Act shows “that extreme MAGA Republicans are willing to even detonate the ability of our military to do what it needs to do to keep us safe.”

To the contrary, it is progressives who want the military to bend to their ideological imperatives. We aren’t going to deter or -- if it comes to that -- defeat an adversary like China with diversity, equality and inclusion trainers or self-flagellating nonsense about our society’s supposed irredeemable flaws.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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LaSalle County Board

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LOCAL AND AREA

Finley participates in CGH Medical Center Summer Scholars Program

STERLING—CGH Medical Center recently concluded its 2023 Summer Scholars Program, a program designed to provide students in the CGH service area with an opportunity to explore the healthcare field.

Over the last two months, this year's participants had the opportunity to work one-on-one with CGH physicians, while also attending lectures about careers in the healthcare field and rotating between various medical departments. The 2023 program concluded with a luncheon and program, where each of the students described the research project they worked on and/or completed while at CGH.

"We congratulate each of these students not only for their academic achievements thus far, but also for their accomplishments throughout the summer," said Dr. Paul Steinke, CGH President and CEO. "They were all very deserving of this opportunity, and we look forward to watching their careers grow in the healthcare field."



CGH Medical Center's 2023 Summer Scholars, left to right, are Emma Megli, Prophetstown High School; Gracey Malmberg, Sterling High School; and Alexis Finley, Mendota High School. (Photo contributed)

Among the 2023 Summer Scholars was Alexis Finley of Mendota, a 2023 graduate of Mendota High School. Finley will be attending Augustana College in Rock

Island, and plans to major in Pre-Med/Biology. She was excited to explore orthopedics and physical therapy, and was eager to learn more about the steps required to

become an orthopedic surgeon. Her research project was on Hypertension, and she was mentored by Dr. John Luckey (CGH Family Practice).

Stage 212 plans auditions for 'Little Shop of Horrors' on August 5th and 6th

LaSALLE – Auditions for Stage 212's Fall 2023 production, the deviously delicious sci-fi hit musical "Little Shop of Horrors," will be held Saturday, Aug. 5 and Sunday, Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. at the theater, 700 First St., LaSalle. Video submissions will be accepted by email until Saturday, Aug. 5 at 10 p.m.

Director Tyler Reviglio will be casting three or four men and four or five women in a variety of lead and supporting roles. He will also be casting an ensemble of five people as well as two puppeteers. Auditions are open to anyone aged 18 and up.

Auditioners should come prepared with a 30-second musical song selection, be dressed for a short movement/dance audition and be prepared to read sides from the script. Auditioners are not required to have the script memorized. Emailed video submissions should contain the auditioner's name, character they are auditioning for, and a video recording of their choice of musical song. Submissions should be emailed to tytyreviglio@gmail.com by Saturday, Aug. 5 at 10 p.m.

A breakdown of character descriptions, vocal ranges and other show information is on the Stage 212 web site at stage212.org. Questions may be submitted to Reviglio at tytyreviglio@gmail.com. "Little Shop of Horrors" will be presented Nov. 10-19, 2023.



Stage 212 offering tap dance workshop for children 10-15

LaSALLE – Stage 212 in LaSalle is offering "A Taste of Tap," a tap dance workshop for children ages 10-15 years old, on Saturday, Aug. 5 from 10-11:30 a.m. at 700 First St., LaSalle.

Under the guidance of instructor Reid Tomasson, participants will learn beginner tap dancing steps and techniques without the commitment of weekly lessons.

The cost of the workshop is \$10 per person. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required. Registration and more information are available online at www.stage212.org.



EDUCATION BRIEFS

Area students graduate from NIU

DeKALB – Over 2,200 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in May. Included among the graduates were the following students from the area:

Harrison Vallaro of Earlville, Bachelor of Science, Engineering Technology-Manufacturing Engineering Technology; Haley Earle of Leland, Bachelor of Science, Psychology;

Hannah Ambler of Mendota, Bachelor of Science, Psychology; Mary Brandner of Mendota, Master of Science in Education, Special Education-Behavior Analysis; Melissa Camacho of Mendota, Bachelor of Science in Education, Elementary Education: Bilingual/ESL; Christopher Frey of Mendota, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science - International Politics; Elizabeth Medina of Mendota, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education with Preschool Special Education Approval; Sandy Northcutt of Mendota, Master of Science, Family Nurse Practitioner; Evan Stielow of Mendota, Bachelor of Science, Biomedical Engineering; Katherine Wohrley of Mendota, Bachelor of Science, Mathematics - Mathematics Education.

T. McNally on Monmouth Dean's List

MONMOUTH – Timothy McNally of Paw Paw, a member of the Class of 2023 at Monmouth College, has been named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester. To qualify for the academic honor, a student must have earned a grade-point average of at least 3.5 for the Spring 2023 semester while maintaining at least 3.0 course credits.

M. Hoelzer on UW-Platteville Dean's List

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. – The University of Wisconsin-Platteville announces its Dean's List, honoring those full-time students who earned high honors in the spring 2023 semester. Among the students achieving the honor is Madeline Hoe-

lzer of Mendota, Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies.

College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture and the College of Liberal Arts and Education require grade-point averages of 3.75 and above for Dean's List honors, while the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science requires students to reach at least a 3.50.

S. Katschke makes Millikin Dean's List

DECATUR – Sammi Katschke of Paw Paw has made the Dean's List for Spring 2023 at Millikin University in Decatur.

Students who attempt 12 graded credits during a fall or spring semester and earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher earn Dean's List honors. Students earning a perfect 4.00 grade point average on 12 graded credits attempted earn High Dean's List honors.

Mendotans graduate from UW-Whitewater

WHITEWATER, Wis. – The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater held spring commencement on May 13.

Among the graduates are Mia Artman of Mendota, who graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music, and Jenna Stanford of Mendota, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education.

More than 1,500 students crossed the stage to receive their degrees at the ceremony, held at Kachel Fieldhouse in the Williams Center.

M. Eager named to Palmer Dean's List

DAVENPORT, Iowa – Madeline Eager of Mendota, has been named to the spring 2023 Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic's Main Campus in Davenport, Iowa.

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa; San Jose, Calif.; and Port Orange, Fla.

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PUBLIC AUCTION

To settle the Estate of Leslie Mullins Jr., we will offer the following Farm Equipment, Household and collectables at public auction live, on site & on line. Several Farm Equipment pieces will be on line as well, starting at 12 Noon. The sale is located at **6772 County Line Rd. Paw Paw, IL 61353** on

Saturday, August 12th 2023

10:00 a.m.

Auctioneers Note: This auction features equipment and tools from Les's farming operation along with several generations of collectibles and household items. This will be a live, onsite auction at the farm. There will also be live internet simulcast bidding on select machinery items at EquipmentFacts.com. Visit our website for full info and photos at bearrows.com. There will be something for everyone. Lunch available and comfort station.

Farm Machinery: (Selling at approx. 12:00 p.m.), **John Deere 6030 #033944**, 1973 model, Cab, syncro, 3pt, 3 remotes, 24.5-32 rears, with clamp on duals, 9967 hours; **John Deere 6620 Combine #456559** shows 3044 hours, hydro, chopper, spreader; **John Deere 444** Corn head 4 row 38"; **John Deere 216** platform, 16"; **EZ Trail 672** Head cart; **Avco / New Idea 708 Uni system w/ 838 uni-husker corn picker** and 841 4 row 36" corn head – corn head has a gear box out; **John Deere 4010** diesel #39439 nf, syncro, 2 remotes, 540 pto – not running; **International 350** utility, wf, w/ loader and manure forks- not running; **Machinery: 2- Case IH 5100** 12' soybean special grain drills with tandem hitch assembly, grass seed, and markers; **Brillion SG-1 20'** soil finisher w/ 5 bar drag; **JD 14'** disk, 9" spacing; **Glencoe 30'** field cultivator w/ 3 bar drag; **Kewanee 20'** disk, 9" spacing w/ buster bar; **Krause 25'** disk, 9" spacing; **Glencoe Soil Saver 11** shank disk chisel plow w/ drag; **JD 7000** 8 row straight bar pull type planter, 36"; **JD 101 30'** planter trailer; **JD Van Brunt model B** grain drill, 12' w/ grass seed 2- 4 row wide **JD** front mount cultivators; 3 single mulcher sections 2- 6' and 1- 8'; **JD 14'** 3pt double rotary hoe; **Glencoe 8r 36"** cultivator; **JD 5** bottom semi mount plow; **JD 4-14'** trailer plow; **JD 145H** 4 bt semi mount plow; **Oliver pull type 13'** field cultivator; 4 section drag on cart; **M&W 200B** gravity wagon; **EZ Flow** gravity wagon on 1065 **JD** gear; **DMI** side dump gravity wagon; Several running gears in various conditions; **King Kutter 4'** 3pt rotary mower; 6' rotary mower; **Peerless** roller mill; **New Holland 469 9'** Haybine; **New Holland 451** sickle mower 7"; **Case IH 8430** round baler, twine; **NH 78** square baler; **NH 256** rake; steel wheel rake; **JD #15** flail chopper 5' cut; **Knight live** bottom barge box; **South east 3pt** quick hitch; **Little Giant** conveyor 8' flat, 8' incline, 4' rise; 1986 **Ford F-700**, gas, 123k, w/ 14' box, not running, box floor in poor condition; 1989 **Bonanza** steel, gooseneck stock trailer, 16', single slam, poor floor and tires. **Compact Tractor, Mower, Tools, and Farm Items:** **John Deere 2210** compact tractor #215197, 954 hrs, diesel, MFWD, hydro, 3pt, 540 pto includes **JD 62"** deck and **Woods 1005** loader w/ 4' bucket; **Cub Cadet Z** force zero turn mower w/ 50" deck; **Bolens Huski** walk behind tractor w/ disk, plow, and field cult attachments; **Dalton Type "B"** metal lathe; **Sun Battery** starter/tester; 7" metal band saw; flare box A frame; **Contintal 4000** shop hoist; **Lincwelder 225** gas generator / welder – not running; **Continental 30** Ton shop press; **Sears 1000lb** engine stand; craftsman riding mower; 10" radial arm saw; **Chicken plucker**; chicken feeders; assorted hand and power tools; assorted misc parts and farm items. **Household & Collectibles:** There will be a large quantity of usual household items including antiques & collectables. Vist our web site www.bearrows.com and click on the Auctionzip link.

Consigned by neighbors: **Farmall C** Tractor, nf, w/ belly mounted blade; **IH 430** baler; **New Idea 2** row pull type corn picker; **Case 580L** Loader / Backhoe, 3890 Hours, MFWD, Extend-a-hoe, 4 speed shuttle shift, Cab w/ heat, 81" loader bucket and 22" backhoe bucket, 19.5-24 rears, 12-16 fronts.

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Wednesday: 8:30 - 12 & 1 - 4
Thursday: 8:30 - 12 & 1 - 4
*Dr. Kelly in office from 1-4
Friday: 8 - 12 & 1 - 4
**with Dr. Kelly in office for provider appts.
Closed Sat./Sun.

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Check us out on Facebook - Mendota's Tri County Fair

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THE FARMER'S REPORT

Roots of hybrid corn trace back to Illinois county

By **DANIEL GRANT**
FarmWeek

Those who drive by the northeast side of Delavan on Springfield Road might notice a carved stone that serves as a historical marker.

But while the field where the marker sits looks quite common for the area, the events that took place there in the 1800s were quite remarkable and had a significant impact on production agriculture that are still felt today.

The Tazewell County farm is where Robert and James Reid just happened to mix two different types of corn that transformed the industry. The site is designated as the “birthplace of open-pollinated corn production,” according to Matt Shipton, a descendent of the Reids and a seed industry representative.

The historical marker, erected in 1955, was established by the Tazewell County Farm Bureau and other local groups, the Illinois Department of Agriculture and the Illinois Seed Dealers Association along with the University of Illinois and Michigan State University.

“It’s just fascinating to think of Delavan’s place in the middle of the Corn Belt,” Shipton told FarmWeek.

Shipton recently discussed the history recorded at the site and his ancestors’ role modernizing corn production during Kansas State University’s Grain Export and Supply Chain Expedition. The tour was organized and led by Guy Allen, senior ag economist at K-State and a Delavan native.

Robert Reid (1813-1888) moved to Illinois from Ohio in the mid-1800s and brought some of his own corn. But it wasn’t very good for processing and he had production issues, so he planted some local seeds known as “little yellow” Indian corn in the same field.

“He had missing hills (of corn), so he grabbed some local seed and filled in those missing hills,” Shipton said. “And by happenstance those two pollinated at the same time and created the open-pollinated corn.”

Then, for the next 60 to 70 years, Robert and James Reid (1844-1910) selected the best ears from this new line of corn, which kept improving its agronomic ability each subsequent season.

“They selected the best plants and best ears as they continued that lineage of the open-pollinated line,” Shipton said.

The end result came to be known as Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn. The open-pollinated variety not only dented, but it greatly outproduced most varieties of the late-1800s.

“Common corn yields for that time were around 25 to 35 bushels per acre,” Shipton said. “But by 1877 it was documented James reached 125 bushels per acre.”

Scott Jeckel, a Delavan native currently farming the former Reid property, noted the field produced a yield



Delavan natives Guy Allen, left, Kansas State University ag economist, and Matt Shipton, second from left, a seed industry representative, discuss the significance of a historical marker at the farm where Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn was developed in the 1800s. A presentation was held on the farm as part of K-State’s Grain Export and Supply Chain Expedition, hosted by Allen, that brought grain buyers from South Korea through Illinois. (Photo by Daniel Grant)

near 250 bushels last year. But it took nearly 150 years to double the production from what Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn achieved nearly a decade after the Civil War.

“We’ve constantly improved (crop potential),” Jeckel said. “But we’re talking a five-times jump (with what the Reids accomplished in the late-1800s). It was enormous.”

The Reids entered their corn in grain contests and it eventually became a sensation at the 1893 World’s Fair in Chicago. Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn took top honors at that event, officially known as The World’s Columbian Exposition to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’s arrival in the New World in 1492.

James Reid subsequently began receiving numerous requests for his corn from around the world. It’s said he fulfilled many of those requests by mailing Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn seed

“By 1920 it was grown in every state and by 1930 an estimated 75% of corn grown in the U.S. could be traced back to Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn. Many reported it increased productivity in local areas where it was planted.”

—Matt Shipton

from the local post office in Delavan.

“By 1920 it was grown in every state and by 1930 an estimated 75% of corn grown in the U.S. could be traced back to Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn,” Shipton said. “Many reported it increased productivity in local areas where it was planted.”

“But (James Reid) never became wealthy off the process,” he noted. “It sounds like he was more willing to give the seed away to help others have additional yield on their farms.”

Hybrid corn varieties were then introduced in the 1920s and overtook their

open-pollinated predecessors, constituting nearly 100% of cultivation in the Corn Belt by the end of the 1930s.

But the source of a number of inbred lines used as parents of many present-day corn hybrids still have roots to the accidental discovery of a lifetime, when the Reids inadvertently created their open-pollinated, yellow dent corn.

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




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ILSoyAdvisor launches crop report tool for Illinois growers

BLOOMINGTON – Farmers across Illinois now have access to a new, easy-to-navigate Crop Report tool, brought to you by the Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) Agronomy team who powers the ILSoyAdvisor online platform.

The ISA Agronomy Team, ILSoyAdvisor Soy Envoys, University of Illinois Extension, and other industry experts teamed up to create this interactive resource, enabling growers to better manage their soybean, corn and wheat crops. From field conditions to crop progress, disease alerts, and pest sightings, the Online Crop Report provides farmers with facts and strategic analysis of relevant information that impacts their farms.

“This online tool is just another example of a project funded by soybean checkoff dollars that provides a ‘boots on the ground’ approach to keep farmers up-to-date on the state of soil and crop growth across Illinois regions,” said ISA Outreach Agronomist, Stephanie Porter. “It’s also another example of a successfully coordinated effort by the ISA Agronomy Team, ISA Soy Envoys, as well as the University of Illinois Extension team to provide up-to-the-moment insights on pests, disease, and weather in order to help farmers stay informed and overcome issues,” continues Porter.

ILSoyAdvisor continues to be Illinois growers’ go-to source for expert agronomic and management advice for Illinois soybean production. Funded by the Illinois Soybean Association checkoff program, ILSoyAdvisor provides the latest education, resources, webinars, success stories, and now timely crop condition updates, so farmers can maximize their operations.

To view the latest reports, go to <https://www.ilsoyadvisor.com/crop-report/> and select your region on the map.

The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) checkoff and membership programs represent more than 43,000 soybean farmers in Illinois. The checkoff funds market development, soybean production and government relations efforts, while the membership program, Illinois Soybean Growers (ISG) and the Illinois Soybean Growers PAC actively advocates for positive and impactful legislation for farmers at local, state and national levels. ISA upholds the interests of Illinois soybean farmers through promotion, advocacy, research and education with the vision of becoming a trusted partner of Illinois soybean farmers to ensure their profitability now and for future generations.



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THE BACK PAGE

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Jim and Martha Piller

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Congratulating Fred and Mary Burnette on 70 years.
The Neighborhood

POLICE BLOTTER

AGGRAVATED DOMESTIC BATTERY
Nicholas R. Henderson, 35, of 104 Second Ave., Mendota, was charged with aggravated domestic battery after police officers responded to an ambulance dispatch in the 900 block of First Street at 1:10 a.m. July 23. The subject was transported to the LaSalle County jail for a bond hearing.

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Penalty: Any person violating this section shall be subject to the penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500. Imposition of any penalty for a violation of this section shall not be construed as a waiver of the right of the City to collect the cost of removal of such nuisance where it is necessary for the City to remove such nuisance.



Drip Fest will take place July 28-29 at the Country Ranch. (Photos contributed)

Drip Fest returns to Country Ranch

Local DJs, MCs to perform for Illinois Valley music fans

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – When you're driving on Rt. 251 between Mendota and Peru on July 28-29, you'll hear a lot of music. And see a lot of people enjoying the music. For the third consecutive summer, Drip Fest returns to the Country Ranch in Mendota to give local performers a place to play and local DJ, EDM, and Hip-Hop fans a place to listen to live music. "There are not many venues built for a festival like this in Illinois," said Drip Fest promoter Marc Lopez. "The Country Ranch is big and offers indoor and outdoor stages. The Country Ranch is also right between Mendota and Peru, and it's surrounded by other smaller towns. Peru, Mendota, and the surrounding towns are where we focus on to get artists and fans."

"The idea behind the festival was to make the area more entertaining and offer music to music listeners. There really isn't much of anything out here in terms of clubs or a night scene for DJs, hip-hop, or EDM. I tried to take advantage of that and cater to the crowd that is out here. Then they don't have to drive two hours to attend a show in Chicago. They don't have to worry about street parking, traffic, or hotels. We're bringing the music and the show here."

Lopez, who is originally from Aurora and moved to Mendota 10 years ago, came up with Drip Fest because he couldn't find many places for him to enjoy music or to perform as DJ Skidmark.

The first annual Drip Fest didn't have a headliner as Lopez was putting his first one-day festival together.

Twista, a world-wide known rapper from Chicago was the headliner for the second one-day festival.

This year, Lopez wanted to expand Drip Fest and is making it a Friday and Saturday event, July 28-29, as Lil Wyte, formerly signed by Grammy award winning rap group Three 6 Mafia, is the headliner on Friday and DJs, Futuristic and Kozik end Saturday's performances.

The three stages provided by Country Ranch will be used every minute of the festival as there are 20-plus acts booked for both days.

Lopez is hoping the expansion will be as equally successful as the previous two Drip Fests.

"We definitely had a list of artists that we know are doing their thing in the Illinois Valley," Lopez said. "We reached out to invite them to perform. There are also a good number of local artists that reach out to us to perform. We try to add as many people as we can without over doing it."

"Our main focus is to get the local artists that don't have somewhere to perform. They have a decent local following that would like to see them perform live. I like to give them a platform for them to do it."

Camping is available at the Country Ranch as festival goers can pitch a tent to avoid long drives home. There will also be food vendors, a full bar for those over 21 years of age, and other festival attractions.

Tickets are available for \$20 at dripmusicfest.com. If a ticket isn't purchased online, tickets will be offered at the door.

Drip Fest is a music event for all ages.



Social Security News

Ready to retire? Apply online with Social Security

By **Mike Weilt**

PERU – It's never too early to start planning for retirement and our online tools can help. Go to www.ssa.gov/myaccount to access your personal my Social Security account to get an estimate of your retirement benefits based on your earnings record. Once you have an account, you can use our Plan for Retirement tool to see how your benefits can change at different ages. Don't have a personal my Social Security account? You can create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

You can also use your personal my Social Security account to see your entire work history and make sure we have all your wages recorded correctly. We base your benefit amount on the earnings reported to us. If you find any errors in your work history, read this guide www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf to learn how to correct your Social Security record. When you're ready to

apply for Social Security retirement benefits, you can complete our online application in as little as 15 minutes at www.ssa.gov/retirement. We will contact you if we need any further information. You can check the status of your application through your online account.

You can apply online for Social Security retirement benefits, or benefits as a spouse, if you:

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- Want your benefits to start no later than four months in the future. (We cannot process your application if you apply for benefits more than four months in advance)

Find out more about retirement benefits at www.ssa.gov/retirement.

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

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Mendota's 76th Annual SWEET CORN FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, AUG. 10

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY, AUG. 11

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY, AUG. 12

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

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

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

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

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

12:00 AM Carnival opens for the day.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

7:30 PM - 12:00 AM

ALL DAY

SUNDAY, AUG. 13

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

10:30 AM

12:00 PM

12:00 AM - 2:00 PM

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

12:00 PM

1:00 PM

2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

3:30 PM

ALL DAY

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

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

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

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

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

Carnival opens for the day.

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

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

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

SWEET CORN FESTIVAL GRAND PARADE

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

FREE SWEET CORN! Sweet Corn from Country Kids Farm Market served steaming hot! Served at the intersection of Illinois Ave & Jefferson St. Corn donated by Larry and Beth Gies.


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

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

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

The schedule of events for the 76th annual Sweet Corn Festival is brought to you by the following sponsors:

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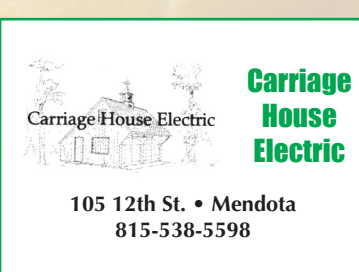
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SPORTS



Tournament champions

The Mendota Rookie League All-Star team outscored its opponents 27-0 in five games to win the end-of-the-year, 12-team Ron Guise Memorial Tournament in Peru. Mendota defeated Princeton 4-0 on July 8, the Instructional All-Stars 14-0 on July 9, Peru 3-0 on July 13, and Ottawa 1-0 on July 16 and 5-0 on July 18. The Mendota coach Eric Pawlowski said, "The boys put in all the hard work and earned the championship. It was a great way to end the baseball season." Celebrating the tournament victory, front row, left to right, are Waylon Beck, Will Hornung, Liam Christmann, Kohen Piller, Adam Delao and Jaxson Stamberger, Back row, Kyle Henkel, Ben Wendel, Brooks Pawlowski, Connor Reppin and Frank Hochstatter. Back row, coach Brandon Hornung, coach Mike Reppin, coach Devin Henkel and coach Eric Pawlowski. (Photo contributed)



Football is the most popular sport among high school athletes

Football reigns supreme in the landscape of American professional sports, and that popularity also is prevalent in boys' scholastic athletics.

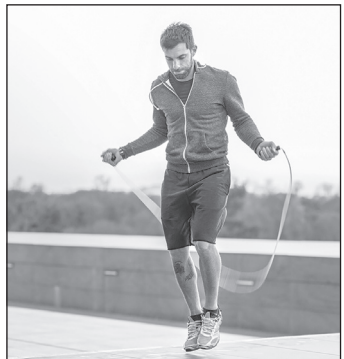
Data from the National Federation of State High School Associations indicates that football is the most popular boys high school sport in the United States, with more than one million participants during the 2018-19 school year, the last full season in which participation was not affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Among high school girls, no sport was more popular than outdoor track and field during the 2018-19 school year. In Canada, one study published in the Journal of Safety Research in September 2021 revealed that the top three sport and recreational activities for boys were basketball, ice hockey and soccer, while girls' most popular sports were dance, basketball and badminton.

What to do when a workout grows stale

Exercise is one of the foundations of a healthy lifestyle. Routine exercise can help individuals reduce their risk for various illnesses, including cardiovascular disease, and can even have a positive effect on mental health.

Making a commitment to routine exercise can be an adjustment for people accustomed to a sedentary lifestyle. But even the most devoted fitness enthusiasts will face certain hurdles on their exercise journeys. One such obstacle is a stale workout. Repeating the same exercises each day for months on end can grow boring, and that boredom may put individuals' commitment to fitness in jeopardy. If a workout has grown stale, the following strategies might help people stay on a healthy track.



- Don't wait for a workout to grow stale. The most effective way to overcome a stale workout routine is to avoid it entirely. Switching up a routine every four to six weeks can provide enough change to avoid the boredom that can develop after following the same regimen for weeks. Strength-training regimens can shift from focusing on building muscle to toning muscle. Various fitness experts note that fewer repetitions with more weight is a great way to build muscle, while more reps with less weight can help to tone muscle. Switching back and forth between these approaches can help to avoid exercise boredom. With cardiovascular training, skip the treadmill on nice days in favor of cycling or jogging outdoors.

- Establish new goals. Fitness goals can provide all the motivation individuals need to commit to an exercise regimen. But interest can wane after such goals have been achieved. That's why it's important to continue setting new goals. When establishing new fitness goals, don't forget to consider the fun factor. Pursuit of a goal that's fun will likely be more engaging, so identify some goals that will be effective and enjoyable.

- Bring others on board. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that individuals tend to feel more motivated and they're more likely to try new activities when working out with a partner. Individuals who have been going it alone with their fitness regimens might find involving others can make workouts less boring, and the presence of another person can make it safer for individuals to expand their exercise horizons. For example, a person can safely lift more weight if another person is always there to serve as a spotter.

- Work with a personal trainer. Personal trainers and other fitness professionals recognize that workout boredom is as big a hurdle as anything in regard to committing to a healthy lifestyle. In recognition of that, personal trainers often know how to switch up a routine so it produces results and remains engaging. Trainers also have the knowledge to tweak routines so they play to clients' interests and strengths.

Workout boredom can be a big hurdle on the road to a healthy lifestyle. But there are many ways to ensure workouts don't grow stale.

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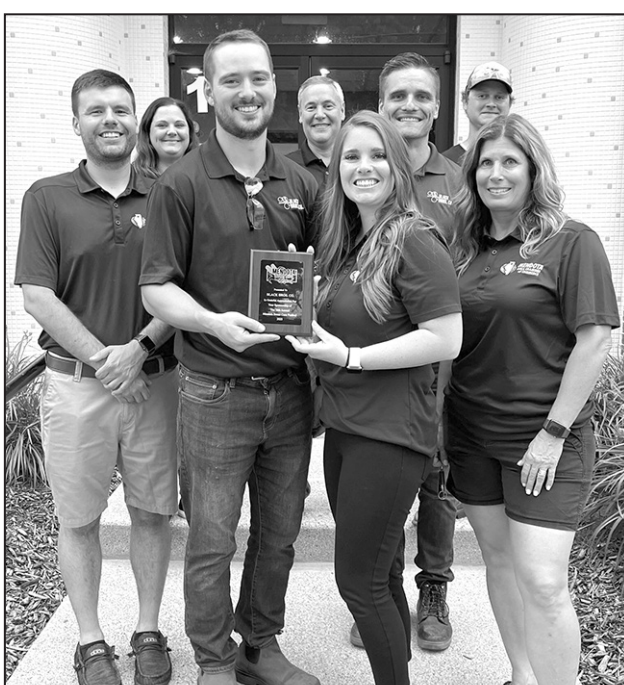
ADM

ADM is sponsoring music entertainment with bands, Side Hustle and Valley Katz, at this year's Sweet Corn Festival. In the photo are, left to right, Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members Erica Henry, Marion Quintana, President/CEO Sam Setchell, ADM General Manager Jeff Mauck, and MACC board members Evan Wixom and Michelle Barkman.



Advanced Drainage Systems

ADS is sponsoring Wild Style Design Face Painters at the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival. Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members joined members of the ADS staff to celebrate the sponsorship.



Black Bros. Co.

Black Bros. Co. is helping bring the South Shore Drill Team to the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival once again. In the photo are, left to right, Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, Evan Wixom and Erica Henry, Black Bros. Assistant Plant Superintendent Evan Carroll, Black Bros.' Jeff Simonton, MACC President/CEO Sam Setchell, BBC's Erik Weber and Adam Schultz, and board member Michelle Barkman.



R.H. Boelk Truck Lines

Boelk Trucking is co-sponsoring the Loves Park Shrine Club in the Sweet Corn Parade as well as transporting and storing barrels and fencing used during the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival. Owner David Boelk, second from left, joined Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, left to right, Erica Henry, President/CEO Sam Setchell, Evan Wixom, and Michelle Barkman to officialize the sponsorship.



Davis Family Health

Davis Family Health is a new Mendota Sweet Corn Festival sponsor as it is supporting balloon twister Lica Lorraine. Celebrating the partnership are, left to right, Mendota Area Chamber Board member Erica Henry, Davis' Kasandra Mandujano and Dr. Kelly Davis, MACC President/CEO Sam Setchell, and board members Evan Wixom and Michelle Barkman.



City of Mendota

Mendota Mayor David Boelk, second from left, and Mendota City Clerk Emily McConville, third from left, honored their Mendota Sweet Corn Festival sponsorship of brochures, portable toilets and the use of the city's Water Department, Fire Department, and Police Department. Joining Boelk and McConville are Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, left to right, Erica Henry, President/CEO Sam Setchell, Evan Wixom, and Michelle Barkman.



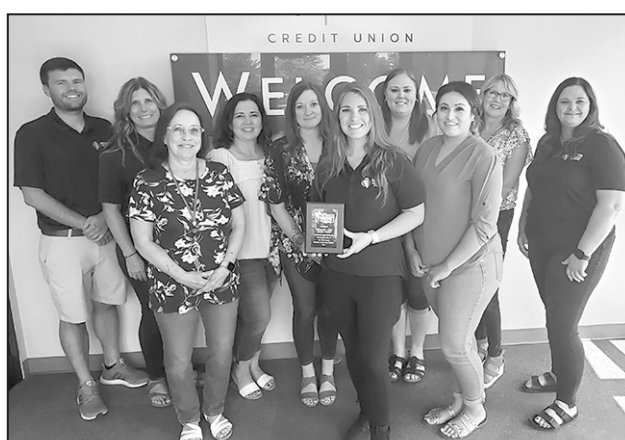
Country Kids Farm Market

The free corn offered to goers of the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival will be provided by Country Kids Farm Market. Showing their crops are Country Kids' Kelsey Brannan and Stephanie Michelini, fourth and fifth from the left, and Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, left to right, Evan Wixom, Michelle Barkman, and President/CEO Sam Setchell.



Eureka Savings Bank

Eureka Vice President and Branch Manager Anna Artega, fourth from left, celebrated Eureka's sponsorship of musician Andrew Bloomquist at this year's Mendota Sweet Corn Festival's queen pageant with Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, left to right, Erica Henry, Evan Wixom, President/CEO Sam Setchell, Marion Quintana, and Michelle Barkman.



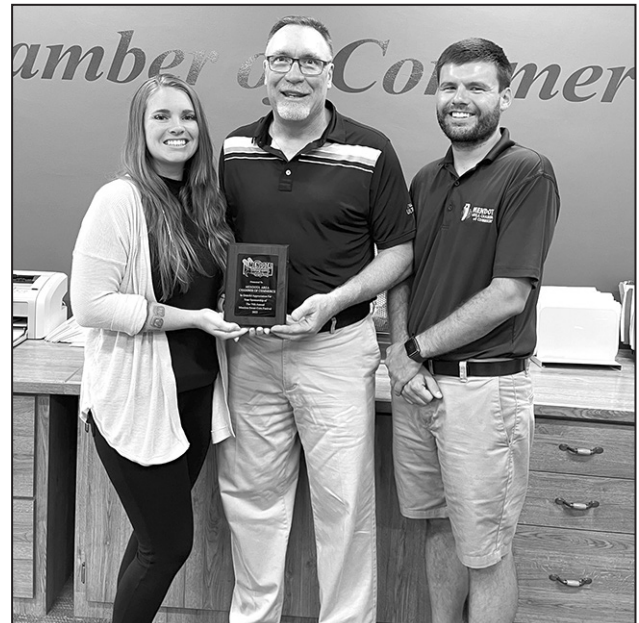
Financial Plus Credit Union

FPCU is sponsoring the South Shore Drill Team at this year's Mendota Sweet Corn Festival. Celebrating the sponsorship are, left to right, Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members Evan Wixom and Michelle Barkman, FPCU's Rose Bonnell, Celina Garza, Trisha Watkins, MACC President/CEO Sam Setchell, FPCU's Jennifer Truckenbrod, Anna Hernandez, and Audrey Hollocker, and MACC's Michelle Barkman.



First State Bank

FSB is sponsoring the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival in multiple ways this year as it's sponsoring the "First State Stage" and the hospitality tent. First State Bank President Tim McConville and Chief Marketing Officer Jan Phalen, both in white, joined Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, left to right, Erica Henry, Michelle Barkman, President/CEO Sam Setchell, and Evan Wixom to celebrate the partnership.



G&M Distributors

G&M is sponsoring the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival's beer garden and musical entertainment, Side Hustle. G&M Distributors Team Leader Todd O'Sadnick, center, joined Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Sam Setchell and MACC board member Evan Wixom to honor the sponsorship.



Johnson Oil/Mendota Shell

Shell Manager Katie Walter, center, celebrated Shell's Mendota Sweet Corn Festival sponsorship of The Jolly Giant Stilt Walkers with Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members, left to right, Erica Henry, Evan Wixom, President/CEO Sam Setchell, and Michelle Barkman.



Mauch Carpentry

Mauch Carpentry is co-sponsoring the Jesse White Tumbling Team at the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival. In the photo, left to right, are Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members Erica Henry and Marion Quintana, Mauch's Mason Mauch, Erin Mauch, owners Wanda Mauch and Dave Mauch, MACC President/CEO Sam Setchell, MACC board members Michelle Barkman and Evan Wixom.



McDonald's

The golden arches are sponsoring Mr. Steve's Comedy Show at the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival. Celebrating the partnership are, left to right, Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members Michelle Barkman and Evan Wixom, McDonald's Manager Adam Del La Paz, MACC President/CEO Sam Setchell, McDonald's Manager Trisha Clark, and MACC Board member Erica Henry.



Nightengales Thrift Shop

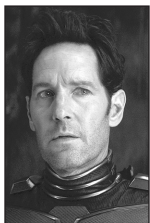
Nightengales is sponsoring the Sweet Corn Festival Food Contest and the Final Phase Dance Team at this year's Mendota Sweet Corn Festival. Honoring the sponsorship are, left to right, Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board members Marion Quintana, Michelle Barkman, Erica Henry, Evan Wixom, President/CEO Sam Setchell, Nightengales' volunteers Patty Moyer, Kim Abel, Karen Bales, Maria Valle, and Diane Lauer.

ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Is Disney+ has drastically lost subscribers, and their stock value has dropped. Their last four recent releases have underperformed.



Rudd

"Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania" (released on Feb. 17) only grossed \$476.1 million against a \$200 million cost, despite Paul Rudd being named as People magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive" back in 2021. Meanwhile, "Ant-Man and the Wasp" (2018) grossed \$623 million against its approximated \$200 million cost.

"The Little Mermaid" (released on May 26) grossed \$547.5 million against its \$250 million cost. (The original 1989 animated version cost only \$40 million and grossed \$235 million.) "Elemental" (released on June 16) has only grossed \$311.7 million against its \$200 million cost, and "Indiana Jones and the Dial of

Destiny" disappointed over the Fourth of July weekend, grossing \$302.4 million against a \$300 million cost.

Come Sept. 15, we'll get the third Agatha Christie adaptation from Kenneth Branagh -- "A Haunting in Venice" (with Branagh, Tina Fey and Michelle Yeoh). Nov. 22 will bring the animated "Wish," which features the voices of Chris Pine and Ariana DeBose. "The Marvels," starring Brie Larson and Samuel L. Jackson, is due on Nov. 10, and "Next Goal Wins," with Michael Fassbender and Elisabeth Moss, opens on Nov. 17.

Looking ahead to next year, a new live-action "Snow White," starring Rachel Zegler, Gal Gadot, Martin Klebba and Andrew Burnap, comes out on March 22, 2024. "Captain America," with Anthony Mackie (as Captain America) and Harrison Ford, drops on July 26, 2024. "Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes" is due on May 24, 2024, and a live-action prequel of "The Lion King," starring Seth Rogen, escapes on July 5, 2024. Not the most exciting or inventive slate, but Disney

has found that tried and true is their safest bet.

Has war been declared between the Hallmark Channel and the Great American Family network yet? It appears Great American Family has poached Hallmark bread talent Candace Cameron Bure and made her an executive at Great American. Danica McKellar, Jen Lilley, Jessica Lowndes and Trevor Donovan are among others who've joined Bure.

Both stations ran Christmas movies in July nonstop, and while Great American has 21 new holiday films slated to start in October, Hallmark promises 40 new holiday films in October. In addition, Great American picked up the Hallmark series "When Hope Calls" for its second season and hired Lori Loughlin, who was dropped from Hallmark as a result of the college scandal that gave her jailtime, to star in "Fall into Winter," which premiered this past January.

Happy birthday to the legendary producer Norman Lear, who turns 101 on July 27.

Couch Theater

"Bones and All" (R) -- In his seventh directorial feature film, Italian director Luca Guadagnino teams up with actors Timothee Chalamet, Michael Stuhlbarg and Chloe Sevigny for the second time each, but beware: This film is not for the weak of heart -- or stomach. Taylor Russell ("Lost in Space") stars as Maren, an 18-year-old girl who gets abandoned by her father after years of her displaying cannibalistic tendencies. In her search to find a new home and purpose, Maren encounters fellow "eaters," including a young man named Lee (Chalamet), with whom she embarks on a road trip across the U.S. Through their journey, Lee and Maren find acceptance and love within each other in a world that would never accept their true identities. Out now. (MGM+)

"Bird Box: Barcelona" (TV-MA) -- It's been five years since the dystopian film "Bird Box," starring Sandra Bullock, swept our screens and became the third most popular Netflix movie ever. Now, Netflix released a spinoff sequel taking place in Barcelona,

Spain. Mario Casas plays Sebastian, a father whose goal is to keep his daughter, Anna, safe from the roaming enigmas that cause people to immediately commit suicide upon seeing them. This time, however, they not only have to watch out for the strange beings, but also seers -- people who are able to look at these beings and live on by manipulating other humans to look at them instead. Although the seers add a fresh layer to the premise, the film has been critiqued for being too comparable to its prequel. Out now. (Netflix)

"Special Ops: Lioness" (TV-MA) -- This has been quite the year of spy-action film and TV, as another spy-thriller series makes its way onto our streaming platforms. A young marine named Cruz Manuelos (Laysla De Oliveira) goes undercover as a secret agent in the CIA's Lioness Engagement Team. Cruz is tasked with infiltrating a terrorist organization by befriending the daughter of a terrorist. A bright-eyed Cruz is told that if she's caught, she must find her own way out of it, but as the stakes rise, Cruz doubts

if she has the training for this mission. The cast for "Lioness" is the main draw-in of the series, a hodgepodge of actors including Zoe Saldana, Morgan Freeman, Nicole Kidman, Michael Kelly and Sam Asghari. The first two episodes are out now. (Paramount+)

"God's Country" (R) -- Adapted from the short story "Winter Light" by James Lee Burke, this modern western film is led by actress Thandie Newton ("Westworld"). Newton portrays Sandra, a university professor living in rural Montana with her mother after their lives in New Orleans were uprooted by Hurricane Katrina. Following the death of her mother, Sandra begins to feel unsettled by locals in her town who leave her threatening messages when she doesn't allow them to trespass on to her property. Without much help from institutions that weren't designed to protect someone like her, Sandra is then forced to fend for herself, as the fight to protect her existence gets increasingly dangerous. Premieres July 28. (Hulu)

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Whatever happened to the older woman who was chosen as "The Bachelorette" and left early in the season because she found "the one"? Are they still together? -- **J.K.**

A: Only in Hollywood is 39 considered old, but that's how old Clare Crawley was when she was chosen by ABC to be their "Bachelorette" for season 16 of the show. She surprised viewers by quitting after just 12 days of filming because she said she already found her man -- 31-year-old contestant Dale Moss. Alas, Crawley didn't find her happily ever after with him.

The couple did get engaged, but had a rocky on-and-off-again relationship, finally breaking up for good in September 2021. After getting her heart broken, Crawley found love the following year with Mascot Sports CEO Ryan Dawkins. She told People magazine, "He's not after fame and... he is so consistent and so vocal about how much he loves me."

Crawley won't be competing on any reality dating shows anymore, since she

happily said "I do" to Dawkins earlier this year and is expecting her first child, via surrogate, in January 2024.

Q: I'm really surprised Carol Burnett didn't get nominated for an Emmy for "Better Call Saul." Isn't there a special category for guest-star parts? I thought she'd be a shoe-in. -- **G.M.**

A: Comedy legend Carol Burnett did a spectacular job in her impactful role on the final season of "Better Call Saul." However, according to Rolling Stone, she wasn't eligible for the Outstanding Guest Actress category because she appeared in "one episode too many" and was thus submitted for consideration in the Supporting Actress category instead. Alas, that category was highly competitive and saturated with actresses from "The White Lotus," leaving Burnett off the nominations list.

"Better Call Saul" aired its series finale right after voting ended for last year's Emmys, putting it at a disadvantage for this year's nominations. Bob Odenkirk and Rhea Seehorn are contenders in their respective

acting categories, and the ceremony is expected to air on Fox this September.

Q: I just read that Margot Robbie has been married for several years. I've never seen her husband walking the red carpet with her at award shows. Who is he? -- **O.T.**

A: The twice-Oscar-nominated actress and star of the upcoming film "Barbie" has been quietly married since 2016 to film producer Tom Ackerley. They met a decade ago on the set of Robbie's movie "Suite Francaise" where he was the assistant director. The two now own a production company and have produced several of Robbie's films, including "I, Tonya."

As for red carpet appearances, the couple did appear before photographers on the pink carpet at the world premiere event for "Barbie" at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. They'll also be producing partners for her upcoming film, a yet-to-be-titled "Ocean's Eleven" sequel. At only 33 years old each, the couple will hopefully have many more years together conquering Hollywood.

• Trivia Test •

1. THEATER: Which group composed the rock opera "Tommy"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: In which country is Mount Everest located?
3. LITERATURE: Which novel contains the line, "Big Brother is watching you"?
4. HISTORY: Who was the second president of the United States?
5. WEATHER: What is a cloud shaped like a flying saucer called?
6. TELEVISION: Which TV comedy features a character named Opie Taylor?
7. MOVIES: What is the name of Argus Filch's cat in the "Harry Potter" series?
8. MATH: What is the only

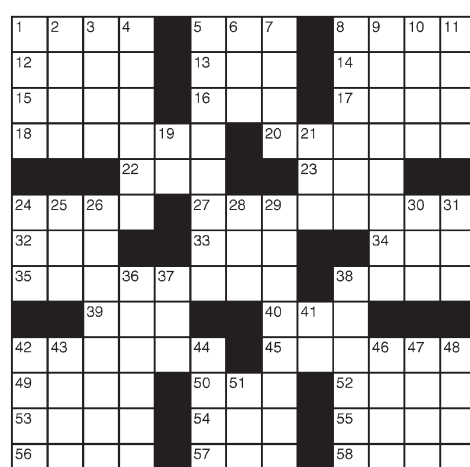
- even prime number?
9. MEDICAL: What is the common name for the ailment called dysphonia?
 10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: How many stages are in a butterfly's life cycle?
- Answers
1. The Who.
 2. Nepal.
 3. "1984" by George Orwell.
 4. John Adams.
 5. A lenticular cloud.
 6. "The Andy Griffith Show."
 7. Mrs. Norris.
 8. Two.
 9. Hoarseness.
 10. Four (egg, larva, pupa and adult).

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Satan's purchase
- 5 Chest protector
- 8 Ski lift type
- 12 Old U.S. gas brand
- 13 Piercing tool
- 14 Hindu royal
- 15 Pub potables
- 16 King, in Cannes
- 17 Choir voice
- 18 New
- 20 Pal of Pooh
- 22 Stephen of "Still Crazy"
- 23 Hobbyist's abbr.
- 24 Mineral-hardness scale name
- 27 Tot's train
- 32 Rock's Brian
- 33 Science room
- 34 Klutz
- 35 Folks from Indiana
- 38 Garrison
- 39 Flop
- 40 Ostrich's kin
- 42 Exhibited ennui
- 45 In a way
- 49 "Metamorphoses" poet
- 50 Hosp. hook-ups
- 52 Carry on
- 53 Ms. Rowlands
- 54 Golf prop
- 55 Like some vaccines
- 56 Gross
- 57 Last letter in London
- 58 Mr. Disney
- 6 — Jima
- 7 Radar dot
- 8 Dire
- 9 Hype
- 10 Pot starter
- 11 Laugh-a-minute
- 19 Concerning
- 21 Altar vow
- 24 "I'm not impressed"
- 25 Music's Yoko
- 26 Snooker
- 28 Guffaw syllable
- 29 Fanatical
- 30 Rowing need
- 31 Frequently
- 36 Half the weekend
- 37 Chemical suffix
- 38 Groove
- 41 Kansas City's st.
- 42 Quotable Berra
- 43 Opposite of "sans"
- 44 Bubblehead
- 46 O'Hara estate
- 47 Cameo shape
- 48 Fedora fabric
- 51 Victory sign



DOWN

- 1 Line of fashion?
- 2 Capital on a fjord
- 3 Secondhand
- 4 Also-rans
- 5 Clinging crustacean
- 6 — Jima
- 7 Radar dot
- 8 Dire
- 9 Hype
- 10 Pot starter
- 11 Laugh-a-minute
- 19 Concerning
- 21 Altar vow
- 24 "I'm not impressed"
- 25 Music's Yoko
- 26 Snooker
- 28 Guffaw syllable
- 29 Fanatical
- 30 Rowing need
- 31 Frequently

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

* The blobfish gets its nickname from its saggy appearance when it's brought to the surface from the deep part of the ocean where it lives. Because it has no skeleton and very little muscle, water pressure that would crush human organs gives the animal physical structure at that depth.

* To maintain the historical accuracy of the American Colonial era, Disney World's Liberty Square was built without any restrooms. (But no, you won't find any out-houses, either.)

* And speaking of restrooms, there are public toilets for dogs in China.

* The character of cross-dressing Corporal Klinger on the TV series "M*A*S*H" was allegedly influenced by comedian Lenny Bruce's claim that he was discharged from the Navy for saying he had "homosexual tendencies."

* Eberhard Anheuser, cofounder of the Anheuser-Busch brewery, got his start in manufacturing with soap and candles.

* Due to a technical glitch in his debit card payment processing, a man was accidentally charged 23 quadrillion dollars. As if that wasn't bad enough, since he didn't have the amount in his account, he was also charged a \$15 overdraft fee!

* Carnauba wax, which is used on cars, is the same type of wax used to give gummy candy its sheen.

* Neptune's moon, Triton, orbits the planet backward.

* To add authenticity to a fictional criminal underworld, Rockstar Games hired real-life gang members to voice background characters in Grand Theft Auto V.

* One-third of men's fragrances sold are actually worn by women.

* Amethysts got their name from the ancient Greek word "amethystos," meaning "not drunk." They were once believed to prevent intoxication.

* The "little black dress" was compared to the Ford car when it debuted in 1926, for its practicality and simplicity.

(c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

S	T	V	M	D	E	Z	A	X	O	I
A	L	O	R	A	L	E	E	N	G	E
E	A	V	A	S	A	T	I	A	I	O
O	L	R	O	S	A	D	E	N	M	A
T	O	F	S	R	E	I	S	O	O	H
E	T									
O	H	O	H	O	H	O	S	H	O	
A	I	C	A	V	E	S	H			
E	T									
O	T	V	A	L	O	R	S	E	T	
I	N	A	V	A	M	O	S	S	E	
A	R	A	B	B	I	L	S	O	L	S

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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Birthday
Michelle!



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Billie & Susie

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\$34 To Run In Both

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(See examples)

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Love, Joey





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stonecroftvillage.com

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815-539-9343
www.schimmergm.com

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www.vaessenbrothers.com

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Ph. 815-538-6290 • Fax 815-538-7032
bakerscomputerservices@frontier.com

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City of
Mendota

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www.mendota.il.us

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LOCAL AND AREA

The secret to your ultimate happiness in life

Jesus says in Matthew 5:3 (AMPC), “Blessed... are the poor in spirit (the humble, who rate themselves insignificant), for theirs is the kingdom of heaven!”

Humility isn’t a very popular word, yet, all throughout the Bible, the Lord teaches us about the benefits of being “humble-minded.” I love James 4:6. It says, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble” (NIV). In other words, the humble get the help!

I believe humility is often misunderstood and viewed as a weakness. But it’s the exact opposite. Humility places us in a position to receive God’s grace and become everything He’s created us to be. A humble person is also

a happy person. They have joy in their life and what God has called them to do, regardless of what the world thinks about it.

For instance, maybe your current circumstances and responsibilities in God’s plan for you are mundane by the world’s standards. A prideful person would rather do something they think the world admires... something others see as “important.” But the truth is it’s not what we do that makes us important.

We are important because God created us and He loves and values us. As we receive His love and find our true worth in Him, then we can truly enjoy our purpose in life and be genuinely content.

So many people are miserable, constantly

comparing themselves to others who they think are smarter, prettier, or more successful. But the “poor in spirit” have the ability to be happy with who they are.

My husband, Dave, is a perfect example. Years ago, the Lord instructed him to leave his job in the engineering field to help establish Joyce Meyer Ministries.

At that time, God spoke to his heart and said, “If you do what I am calling you to do and support Joyce so she can do what I’ve called her to do, then you will have real peace and happiness.”

Dave is an extremely vital part of this ministry. We are a team, and he oversees all of the business and financial aspects of the organization. He is a truly humble man—a man who is secure and knows that God approves of him—and he’s okay with his wife being the one “out front.”

I can honestly say that Dave is one of the happiest people I know. He knows what God has asked him to do and he is doing it with joy.

Here are some other character traits of a humble person:

1. The humble can always ask for help, and they don’t insist on everything being done their way.
2. They are quick to forgive others, difficult to offend, and content to wait on God for vindication when they have been wronged.



3. They are patient and don’t get frustrated with the weaknesses of others.

4. The humble person is a peacemaker. In fact, we need humility to maintain peace in our lives. Romans 12:16 (AMPC) says, “Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty... but readily adjust yourself to [people, things] and give yourselves to humble tasks. Never overestimate yourself...”

5. A humble person knows when to be quiet. It’s certainly not wrong to talk, but a humble person is comfortable allowing others to have center stage and doesn’t feel the need to speak their mind in every situation.

6. A humble person sees their own weaknesses and can readily admit them. When we open up to others about ourselves, it can actually encourage and help them realize they’re not the only ones who deal with things.

7. A humble person happily serves other people, and they don’t do it to impress others. They do it unto God, knowing

their reward will come from Him.

8. A humble person is thankful. This is one reason they’re usually so happy. When we live with an attitude of gratitude, it releases joy and power into our lives.

9. A humble person has a tender conscience and is quick to repent.

10. A leader who is truly humble treats everyone with respect. How a leader treats people is the quickest way to find out their level of humility.

First Peter 5:6 (NIV) says, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.” And Jesus says in John 15:5, “... Apart from me you can do nothing.” I often pray things like, “Lord, I can do absolutely nothing without You today. Please help me—I need Your grace in every situation.” The older I get, the more I realize the importance of humility.

I encourage you to pray and ask for God’s help. By His grace, you can live with an attitude of

humility and enjoy your life in Christ.

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s three-part teaching resource Life-Changing Attitudes. 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!

IMSA SPORTSCAR WEEKEND
AUGUST 3-6

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Car corrals » Pace car rides » Driver forum
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101 LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF
THIRTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LA SALLE COUNTY,
ILLINOIS**

ESTATE OF Donald
James Gahan, De-
ceased
Case No. 2023-PR-
000116

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the
death of Donald James
Gahan of Utica, Illinois.
Letters of Office were
issued on July 5, 2023
to Steven F. Gahan of
2002 Diana Drive, Men-
dota, IL 61342; Michael
E. Gahan of 1100 West
Lawn Avenue, Mendo-
ta, IL 61342, and Don-
ald John Gahan of 3081
E. 9th Road, Utica, IL
61373 whose attorney
is Guilfoyle & Steven-
son, LLP, 1316 Meriden
Street, Mendota, IL
61342.

Claims against the es-
tate may be filed in the
Office of the Circuit
Clerk, Probate Divi-
sion, LaSalle County
Courthouse, Ottawa, IL
61350, or with the rep-
resentative, or both, on
or before January 13,
2024. If a claim notice
is mailed or delivered
personally to a creditor
of the decedent, the
creditor's claim may
be filed on or before
the date stated in the
notice, if later than the
date shown above. Any
claim not filed within the
time allowed is barred.

Copies of a claim filed
with the Clerk must be
mailed or delivered to
the Representative and
to the Attorney with-
in ten days after it has
been filed.
No. 0708
(July 12, 19 and 26,
2023)

**NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF
THIRTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LA SALLE COUNTY,
ILLINOIS**

ESTATE OF Dale A.
Hansen, Deceased
Case No. 2023-PR-
000117

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the
death of Dale A. Han-
sen of Mendota, Illinois.
Letters of Office were
issued on June 29,
2023 to Glen D. Han-
sen of 101 N. Jeffer-
son Street, Flanagan,
IL 61740, and Ruth M.
Hansen of 202 W. South
Street, Apt. B, Flana-
gan, IL 61740 whose
attorney is Guilfoyle &
Stevenson, LLP, 1316
Meriden Street, Mendo-
ta, IL 61342.

Claims against the es-
tate may be filed in the
Office of the Circuit
Clerk, Probate Divi-
sion, LaSalle County
Courthouse, Ottawa, IL
61350, or with the rep-
resentative, or both, on
or before January 20,
2024. If a claim notice
is mailed or delivered
personally to a creditor
of the decedent, the
creditor's claim may
be filed on or before
the date stated in the
notice, if later than the
date shown above. Any
claim not filed within the
time allowed is barred.
Copies of a claim filed
with the Clerk must be
mailed or delivered to
the Representative and
to the Attorney with-
in ten days after it has
been filed.
No. 0707
(July 19, 28 and Aug. 2,
2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given
that on August 28, 2023
at 9:00 am, a sale will
be held at 312 California
Avenue Lot 11, Ogles-
by, IL. 61348 to sell the
following mobile home
to enforce a mechanics
lien in the amount of
\$2,066.00 pursuant to
chapter 770ILCS 45/1

and 770ILCS 90/1. Last
known owner Sylvia
Sarver 1976 Skyline Vin
#01310326J. The sale
will be held 30 days
from the date of this
publication. The Oaks
Mobile Home Park.
No. 0710
(July 26, Aug. 2 and 9,
2023)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

No: 2023-JD-79
TO: Unknown Fathers,
other interested parties,
and to All Whom It May
Concern:

Take notice that on the
19th day of July, 2023
a petition was filed un-
der the Juvenile Court
Act by Vicki L. Denny,
in the Circuit Court of
LaSalle County entitled
'In the interest of Logan
P. Earles, a minor', and
that in the Criminal Jus-
tice Center Courtroom
110 at Ottawa, Illinois
on the 29th day of Au-
gust, 2023, at the hour
of 8:30 a.m., or as soon
thereafter as this cause
may be heard, an Adju-
dicatory Hearing will be
held upon the petition to
have the child declared
a ward of the court un-
der that Act. The Court
has authority in this
proceeding to take from
you the custody and
guardianship of the mi-
nor.

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

Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
Dated July 19, 2023
No. 0711
(July 26, 2023)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

This publication does
not knowingly accept
fraudulent or deceptive
advertising. Readers
are cautioned to
thoroughly investigate
all ads, especially those

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

asking for money in
advance.

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does
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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
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more information, call
toll-free 1-877-FTC-
HELP. A public service
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hometown newspaper
and the Federal Trade
Commission.

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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thoroughly investigate
all ads, especially those
asking for money in
advance."

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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Care and Tree Work.
Mowing, bushes, spring
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Jeremy Furman 815-
761-9619. Please leave
a message will return
call ASAP. Fully insured,
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201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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holding a permit as a
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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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furniture, glassware,
pottery & crocks, tin &
iron toys, sterling silver,
decoys. If it's antique,
I'm interested in looking!
Call 815-562-2928 or
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305 GARAGE SALE

FRANKLIN GROVE -
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Basement, 106 S.
Walnut Street. Fri 8/4
8AM - 4PM, Sat 8/5
8AM - 1PM. 4+ Racks
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Name Brand Clothing
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Furniture & Appliances.
Don't miss this one!
Unlike the stores, our
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(07-30-23)

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7/24 thru Friday 7/28
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chairs, coolers and
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accept any advertising
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**An
Advertising
Proverb**

When Mark
Twain was editing
a newspaper in
Missouri, one of
his subscribers
wrote in, saying
that he had found
a spider in his
newspaper and
wondered
whether it was a
sign of good or
bad luck. Twain's
response:
"Finding a spider
is neither good
luck nor bad. The
spider was
merely looking
over our
newspaper to see
which merchant
was not
advertising, so
that he could go
to that store, spin
his web across
the door, and
lead a life of
undisturbed
peace ever
afterward."

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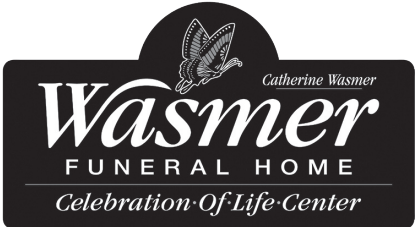
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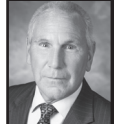
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