

‘Annie’ is ready to take center stage

3M Production practicing for play to be presented July 28-30 at MHS

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – Annie is coming to town.

Not Aileen Quinn, but a 3M Production to hit the stage at 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 28, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 29, and 2 p.m. Sunday, July 30 at the Mendota High School auditorium.

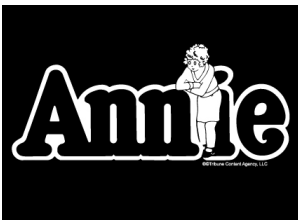
The cast for “Annie” was selected in mid-May and practices began June 5 as the 56-member cast is performing in the first full amateur production in three years.

“Last summer we did “Frozen Jr.” and that was the first show that we did in two years because of the COVID-19 hiatus,” said Chris Benson, who owns 3M Productions and is the director of “Annie.” “We’re just trying to build back up. We really had a lot of momentum before COVID with people we could call right away to be part of the production. Now, we’re rebuilding that.

“It’s a great community event. We’re back to doing a community amateur performance. This is two hours of fun. We cut one song from “Annie” to not run longer than two hours, but they allow you to do it. You’re not supposed to change anything in a show without permission. The song we took out, it’s written in the show, you can elect to do this song or not.”

The cut song doesn’t take away from the show’s quality as Annie has a cast full of talented actors, actresses, singers, and dancers in the area.

The lead role, Annie, is played by Briza Cervantes.



Cervantes is a 14-year-old Mendota native who will be a freshman at Mendota High School in the fall.

The young actress is putting her all into the role as it may be her last for the foreseeable future.

“I’ve always loved the movie. I have a locket already. I wanted to do this before I become a high schooler and try different things,” said Cervantes, who began acting in the fifth grade and has been involved in “Matilda,” “Frozen Jr.,” and a talent showcase before being chosen as Annie. “This may be my last production for 3M Productions for a while because when I start high school I am going to be in the band, show choir, Madrigals, and sports (cross country, basketball cheerleader, and track and field).”

Cervantes added that the break may only be during her first year of high school just to make sure she doesn’t have too much on her plate as she does want to engage in all of her interests.

Although a break may be needed, it will come after her favorite, biggest part so far, Annie.

“Being cast as Annie means a lot since it’s my first actual huge, lead role. 3M Productions is always a blast. It’s always a lot of fun,” Cervantes said. “You always meet a lot of new



Cast members go through a scene for the production of “Annie,” set for July 28-30 at MHS. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

people. There are some kids from Tonica, La Salle, and Peru that I’ve never met. It’s really cool to have those interactions with people that I wouldn’t have met unless we were on the same production.

“We have amazing dance teachers and an amazing director (Benson). We have a lot of resources. They’re all very helpful. I know I’m going to do good because I have all of these resources and they make sure to help you to do your best.”

Shannon Argubright, of The Dance Center in La Salle, is the dance instructor for “Annie.”

Benson said she loves working with Argubright

because she has training that goes into how to sing and dance at a Broadway level.

“We love having her because she makes non-dancers, and there are few very trained dancers, look good. The whole cast will look good by production time.”

The character Pepper is played by Jadyn Leone, while Holly Malmassari is July, Eva Beez is Duffy, Ruby Stash is Tessie, Julia Smith is Kate, Adelynn Landers is Molly, Natalie Veruchhi is Miss Hannigan, Deana Simmer plays Grace Farrell, Jeff Houk will be

See Annie, Page A5

Grocery tax back; gas tax increases

Illinoisans paying more as of July 1

By **JERRY NOWICKI**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – A new state fiscal year began July 1, ushering in the reinstatement of a 1 percent tax on groceries and a second increase to the state’s motor fuel tax in 2023.

Amid record-high inflation last spring, the General Assembly temporarily waived Illinois’ grocery tax for the coming fiscal year and delayed the annual increase in the state’s motor fuel tax for six months. Democrats introduced both those measures as part of a larger tax relief package that drew criticisms for its proximity to the November general election.

“What we did last year was a temporary measure because we had very high inflation,” Pritzker said when asked at an unrelated news conference whether the changes were election-related. “Inflation, you may notice, has come down.”

Inflation was approaching 9 percent when the tax relief plan passed last year, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, but it was 4 percent last month when the fiscal year 2024 was budget passed.

The Pritzker administration estimated at the time the temporary pause on the grocery tax would cost the state \$400 million. Most grocery tax revenues are distributed to local governments, so last year lawmakers directed state general revenue funds to reimburse local governments for any financial hit they would have taken due to the pause.

“I would like very much to eliminate entirely the grocery tax, but it is a matter of local governments and what they would do if they didn’t have that income as a result of the grocery tax,” Pritzker said, faulting Republicans for “complaining” about the tax being reimposed without offering revenue alternatives.

The motor fuel tax on gasoline, gasohol and compressed natural gas, meanwhile, will increase by 3.1 cents on July 1, to 45.4 cents per gallon. The tax rate for diesel fuel will also increase by 3.1 cents, to 52.9 cents per gallon.

The automatic increase in the fuel tax at the beginning of the new fiscal year is an annual process that became law in 2019 with bipartisan support. Lawmakers doubled



Pritzker

See Tax, Page A5

‘It’s time to move on’

Cross Body Shop in Mendota ends its nearly 75-year run

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – The building at 1213 Meriden St. in Mendota looks different than it has for the last 74 years.

In December of 2022 and the beginning of January 2023, John Cross and Michael Dolan finished up jobs on the docket and didn’t take any new customers as Cross Body Shop shut its doors for the last time at the end of January.

“My main reason was my age. I was past retirement age but just hadn’t retired,” said Cross, who has been associated with Cross Body Shop his entire life. “Michael Dolan, my lead employee and my lone employee for the last eight years, turned



66 and was thinking about retirement. It was time to shut it down and move on to another stage of life.”

Cross Body Shop was founded by Curtis Cross, John’s father, in 1948. The son bought the business from his father in 1983.

For 74 ½ years, October 2023 would have been 75 years, the Cross family repaired vehicles after fender benders and collisions.

However, with no one to give the business to and the

changing of the industry, Cross knew it was time to close.

“I have two children, son and a daughter, and neither one of them were interested,” Cross said. “The way the industry has been moving and the trend of decreasing collision numbers, there wasn’t a chance to find someone who was willing to invest in a body shop in a small town when there are several body shops in the same town.

“I had put the building up for sale four or five years ago to see what was available or if there was any interest. And there wasn’t. When I put it up for sale this time, there was some interest in it. I thought, ‘OK, it’s time to retire and sell the building because

Mendota doesn’t need any more empty buildings.”

Cross sold the building at 1213 Meriden to Craig Truckenbrod.

Truckenbrod said he has a lot of time and money going into the building as there will be a new roof, brick walls tuck pointed and cracks repaired, windows filled in, new windows, new heating and cooling installed, new electrical service installed and rewired, and new walls are being built inside the building.

A dark grey coat of paint has already replaced the light brown associated with Cross Body Shop.

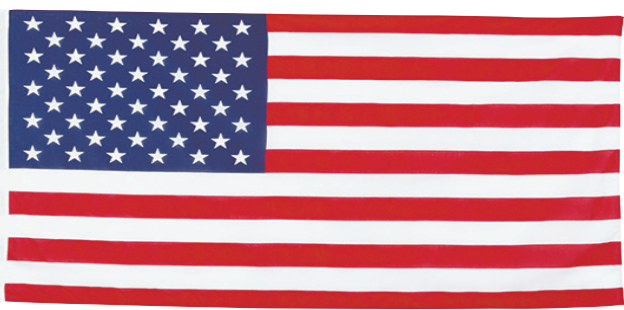
See Cross, Page A5



Curtis Cross, left, founded Cross Body Shop in 1948, and his son, John, took over the business. (Photo contributed)



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Index

Local News	Pages A2,A3,A5,A9
Obituaries	Page A4
Opinion	Page A6
Entertainment	Page A7
The Fortune Phrase	Page A8
The Back Page	Page A10
Home Improvement	Pages B1-B4
Sports	Page B5
Church Page	Page B7
Classifieds/Legals	Pages B8,B9,B10



LOCAL AND AREA

Welcome to the Chamber



CDS Small Biz Accounting

The accountants located in Sandwich recently joined the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce when they met Chamber members at the Chamber office to receive their welcoming plaque. At the ceremony were, front row, left to right, Chamber Ambassadors Brandon LaChance and Kim Bima, CDS Small Biz Accounting's Lisa Roberson and Colleen Sullivan, holding the plaque with Chamber President/CEO Sam Setchell, Ambassadors Dessa Collings and Lee Stocking. In the back row, left to right, Christin Atherton and Erin Lauer. (Photo contributed)



Win Stoller, State Senator 37th District

Senator Win Stoller, a Republican from Germantown Hills, and his staff became the newest members of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, June 27. Joining the ceremony were, left to right, Chamber Ambassadors Christin Atherton and Lee Stocking, Senator Stoller, Chamber President/CEO Sam Setchell, Stoller's wife Amy Stoller, Chief of Staff Dixie Zietlow, and Deputy Chief of Staff Nancy Naylor. Stoller has four offices in his territory with the closest to Mendota being 121 E. First St. in Dixon. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

Nightengales isn't spelled W-a-h-l-b-e-r-g; Thrift shop pays for Mendota Pool swimming

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

MENDOTA—Kim Abel had a good chuckle.

The reason she literally laughed out loud was because of a rumor that Mark Wahlberg was funding the free swims at the Mendota Pool.

In actuality, Nightengales Thrift Shop is supporting children and the community by supplying the free swims.

"We started paying for swimming at the Mendota Pool quite a long time ago. It started when a group of kids came into Nightengales and asked for a job so they could make some money to go to the pool," said Abel, a registered nurse who serves as Nightengales principal. "We thought there were



too many kids to employee them, but we could start paying for people to swim at the pool.

"We started slow and just paid for night swims. We then added more. Now,

this year, we pay for all swimming so kids, their parents, and elderly can enjoy the pool. We told the Mendota Pool, whenever you're open, we'll pay for it and offer free swim to

the public."

Not only did Abel and Nightengales save kids from working long hours, but they supported good health.

Good health is still

supported to this day and a reason why all swimming is covered by the thrift shop and health clinic.

"Paying for swimming is one of the better things we do. Nightengales started because of the health clinic, so we support good health," Abel said. "Kids need to move. They need to be outside. They need to swim. They need to get away from their phones. Everything at Nightengales is fun, but this is one of the most fun things we get to do.

"The community is good to us and supports us. This is us, Nightengales, trying to give back to the community. It's a very fun part of what we do. This is a thank you to the community because without them, we're in trouble."

Food Pantry fundraising for new building

MENDOTA — The Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry is holding fundraisers to help fund the construction of a new food pantry.

The first two fundraisers include a 50/50 raffle and a Sip & Snack chicken fundraiser at 2-7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Tickets for both can be purchased at the current food pantry, 918 Main St. in Mendota.

There will be a groundbreaking for the new pantry at noon Tuesday, July 11 at 710 6th Ave. in Mendota.

The Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry bought the land, but now needs \$380,000 to build the new food pantry.

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The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Animals, aerospace, shows featured at LaSalle County 4-H Show & Junior Fair

OTTAWA – Join the fun at the LaSalle County 4-H Show & Junior Fair on July 13-16 at LaSalle County fairgrounds on the south side of Ottawa. 4-H members are busy completing projects and cleaning up the fairgrounds in preparation of putting on a great exhibit show. This year’s 4-H Show will represent the 4-H’ers year-round projects, service learning and community activities the 4-H members participate in. Come on out to the LaSalle County Fairgrounds to experience 4-H. Stay to enjoy the night events too. This year, many new events and activities can be enjoyed.

- Thursday, July 13, exhibition and judging starts on non-live-stock projects. This includes everything from aerospace to zucchini. There are also visual arts exhibitions, natural resources, interior design, food science, cake decorating and so much more. The Dog Show and a Style Revue and 4-H SWAG Show will also take place on Thursday. The night event will welcome the Illinois State Pullers Truck and Tractor Pull.
- Friday, July 14, the Swine, Poultry and Dairy shows begin in the morning. Following the Dairy Show the Goat venue will begin. The Public Presentation speaking contest will be held at 5 p.m. in Exhibit Hall 3. Included with this presentation is a “Share Your Talent” impromptu show. Youth will be stage front to entertain and share their creative talents. The Broken Horse Rodeo will close the evening events starting at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, July 15, the Horse, Rabbit, and Beef Showmanship contest opens the morning with the beef show following. Many fun activities and events will be taking place throughout the day: Funny Magic Guy, Rob Thompson will provide three shows throughout the afternoon. 4-H Pop up activities will occur between 11 a.m.-2 p.m. along with some good old-fashioned contests. The evening will offer a Fair Auction at 4:30 p.m. in the show arena, with numerous items for bidding and proceeds benefiting LaSalle County 4-H programming. Evening entertainment will be the Demolition Derby at 7 p.m.
- Sunday, July 16, the Horse and Sheep shows begin at 8 a.m. The Master Showmanship contest will also begin at approximately 10:30 a.m. in the Show Arena. As a special closing ceremony, graduating 4-H age youth and Cloverbuds are recognized in addition to the announcement of this year’s Hall of Fame recipient. Fairgoers and 4-H youth will meet in building 3 in the afternoon to congratulate all exhibitors and honor graduates. At the close of the fair the projects are released at approximately 4 p.m.

Bring the family and come on out to see the fabulous projects young people from all over the county have completed, see all the animals, enjoy good food and have a great time at the 4-H Show and Junior Fair! You may forward 4-H questions to University of Illinois – LaSalle County Extension at 815-433-0707. For information regarding gate fees and night events call the LaSalle County Junior Fair Association at 815-200-3913.

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If you have questions or need more information, please call University of Illinois Extension- Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam Unit Office at 815-224-0889.

Waterman Summerfest and Antique Tractor & Truck Show hosted by Lions Club

WATERMAN – The Waterman Lions Club’s 23rd annual Summerfest and Antique Tractor & Truck Show is Saturday, July 15, at Waterman Lions Park. The park is located on South Birch Street, which is in the southwest section of Waterman.

The Lions position their annual show as an affordable family-oriented event with a genuine homecoming atmosphere. This year’s show will have the traditional events such as 7 a.m. breakfast by Shabbona Community Church, kids’ show, pedal pull, music by live bands, food concession, Waterman Fire Department pork chop barbecue, beer garden, and a spectacular fireworks show. There will also be a craft & flea market, antique farm exhibits, tractor pull by Weak End Antique Pullers, and the Parade of Power led by farm broadcaster, Max Armstrong.

To keep the show refreshed and interesting, publicity chair Pam Gaston promises some exciting new attractions. She said, “You will have to come and see them for yourself at Waterman Lions Park on Saturday, July 15.”

For more information, visit www.WatermanTractorShow.com.

Leslie Goddard to virtually present the history of Barbie

LaSALLE – The LaSalle Public Library will virtually host Historian, Leslie Goddard, on Tuesday, July 11 at 6 p.m. for a unique program about the history of America’s most famous doll.

She might be the most famous doll in the world. For more than 60 years, Barbie has been played with, analyzed, collected, criticized and loved. In this illustrated virtual lecture, Goddard delves into the history of Barbie and her inventor, the passionately creative and intensely competitive, Ruth Handler. Learn what inspired Handler to develop Barbie in 1959, how Barbie helped make Mattel one of the world’s most successful toy companies, and what Barbie’s impact has been on American culture.

Goddard, Ph.D., is an award-winning historian, author, actress and lecturer who has been presenting on topics in American history and women’s history for 20 years. She holds an interdisciplinary Ph.D. from Northwestern University as well as master’s

degrees in both museum studies and in theater. A former museum director, she currently works full time as a public speaker and author. Her presentations have been seen by audiences in more than 30 states, including scores of universities, museums, libraries, festivals, and civic organizations.

This program is free and open to the public. Register: <https://rb.gy/cyp8f>. For more information, please contact the LaSalle Public Library at 815-223-2341.

“Animals Around the World”

MENDOTA – Graves-Hume Public Library in Mendota invites you to a special program, “Animals Around the World”, at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 15 as bats, a sloth, and an armadillo will be showcased.

This event is open to all and no library card or registration is required. For more information check out the Graves-Hume Public Library Facebook page, stop in for a newsletter, or call 815-538-5142.

Health & Fitness Camp to offer positive informative discussions, activities for kids 8-12

LaSALLE – With social media, technology, and instant information, youth today face challenges that were not prevalent in the past. Many of our youth access information that is beyond their maturity level, or false. They can easily be pressured by peers or influencers, and sometimes make poor decisions. This is especially true for youth in their “teen” years that are at a critical age developmentally, socially, and emotionally. The University of Illinois Extension and 4-H is offering an opportunity for youth, ages 8-12, to attend a camp and have some positive, informative, discussions and activities on how to handle these pressures and make good choices for their future.

The Health & Fitness Camp will take place on July 31-Aug. 3 from 9-11 a.m. each day at Hegeler Park in LaSalle. The focus of this camp is making healthier life choices by avoiding drug and alcohol use, developing skills to thrive emotionally and socially, avoiding risky behaviors, and pursuing healthy habits. The camp is based on lessons from the National 4-H Council’s Health Rocks! curriculum. The four-day camp will begin each morning with group lessons, crafts, and activities, followed by a 1-mile walk with four stations along the way. The stations will provide a fun game, sport, or snack for the youth to experience. A yoga instructor and school

presenter will teach yoga practices and mindfulness; a local high school coach will talk about how important it is to make good choices in order to be successful in high school activities; a community worker will present a “hydration station” featuring infused water; and Extension staff will provide games and prizes. This camp will be fun, educational, and inspirational for all youth participants.

To register, visit LaSalle-il.gov and click on “park & Rec.” The camp is free to LaSalle residents, and \$10 for non-residents. Space is limited to the first 20 to register.

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If you have questions or need more information, please call University of Illinois Extension- Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam Unit Office at 815-224-0889. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please indicate when registering or contact the Extension office. Extension offices are located in Princeton, Ottawa, Henry and in Oglesby on the IVCC campus.

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Howard W. Glenn

AMBOY—Howard W. Glenn, 99, of Amboy, died Thursday, June 29, 2023, at his home in Amboy.

Funeral services will be on Sunday, July 9, 2023, at 3 p.m. at the United First Church in Amboy. Visitation will be from 2 p.m. until the time of the service at the church. Burial will follow at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy with a luncheon at the church following the burial.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

He was born on Feb. 26, 1924, in Kane, Wy., the son of William H. and Laura Dell (Rodgers) Glenn. He married Marian F. Pasley in Amboy on Sept. 17, 1948.

He is survived by his children, Laura (Thomas) Palmer of Dixon, Michael Glenn of Dixon, and Mark (Julie) Glenn of Dixon; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

Howard is preceded in death by his parents; grandson Andrew Glenn; brothers Ralph, Wilbur, Alvin, Russell, and Gail Glenn; and sisters Letha Poulos, Lola Ponto, Bonnie Ruble, Opal Schanenberg, and Doris Ail.

Howard operated the Glenn Grocery Store and Rootbeer Stand in Amboy and also was a union carpenter for many years. He was also a Deacon and was very active in his church.

A memorial has been established to the United First Church in Amboy. Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

Edith B. Becker

MENDOTA—Edith B. Becker, 100, of Mendota, passed away Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at Manor Court, Peru surrounded by her loving family.

Funeral services will be Friday, July 7, 2023, at 11 a.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Father Gregory Jarzombek, OSB, officiating. Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the funeral.

Edith was born June 23, 1923, in Philadelphia, Pa., to Frank and Edith (Summerville) Smith. She married Roland Becker on May 20, 1944, in Philadelphia.

She is survived by her two sons, Stephen (Deborah) Becker and Kevin (Sherrie) Becker; five grandchildren, Jason, Jeffrey, Matthew, Brian and Simone; eight great-grandchildren; and her sister, Frances Forsythe.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband in 2014 and her son Craig Becker in 2022.

Edith graduated from Temple University in 1944 with a degree in education. She taught at Amboy High School for 20 years. She was involved in several social clubs. Edith enjoyed playing golf, bridge and traveling.

Memorials may be directed to Holy Cross Church. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Dale A. Provow

MENDOTA—Dale Allan Provow, 63, of Mendota, passed away unexpectedly, Thursday, June 29, 2023, at his home.

His funeral will be held on Saturday July 8, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Merritt Funeral Home in Mendota with Rev. Michael Slutz officiating. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the time of service. Cremation rites will be accorded afterward and a private burial will be held at Brooklyn Cemetery in Compton at a later date. Following the funeral there will be a celebration of life at the VFW in Mendota.

Dale was born Oct. 24, 1959, in Mendota to Eugene and Joyce (Judd) Provow.

Dale is survived by his mother, Joyce Gualandi of Mendota; his children, Nicole (Andrew Frey) Provow of Mendota, Dale (Brandi) Herbert Dustin Provow of Machesney Park, Allen (Ashley) Collins and Cassandra "PeeWee" (Ronnie Marcum) Provow, both of Beebe, Ark.; two brothers, Wendell (Jeannie Williams) Provow of Lee Center and Ken (Fran Duffy) Provow, Sr. of Earlville; one sister, Judy (Brian) Beattie of Mendota; 17 grandchildren who he loved and adored, Kevon Frey, Kaitlen Frey, Logan Anderson, Kelle Frey and Keegan Levan; Brianna Massie, Maddox Provow, Paisley Provow and Josie Provow; Lilly Collins, Geneva Collins, Haley Collins, Bessie Collins and Pearl Collins; Jaylynn Tollison, Dustin Tollison and Sadie Tollison; and several nieces and nephews that he enjoyed picking on.

He was preceded in death by his father; his stepfather, Fred Gualandi; two brothers, Eddie Provow and Daryl Provow; one niece, Amy Provow; two nephews, Kenny Provow, Jr. and Josh Bufford; and his granddaughter, Mercedes Provow-Tollison.

Dale loved his family thoroughly. He was always the "go to" person because he knew a little bit about everything. He never asked for anything in return. If he could help, he would.

He was a proud and strong man. He may not have said, "I love you" too often, but he showed it and expressed it in his own way. He'd tease, "cut up" with ya. Tell jokes anything to make a person smile. He always had a way of making everyone feel that they were accepted, comfortable, welcomed and a part of the family without ever passing judgment. It was his way of showing his love. The only way he knew. He was looked upon as a "Dad" figure by many.

Dale enjoyed fishing! His "fishing holes," as he referred to them was his happy place. He made many memories with his parents, siblings, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, other family members and friends while fishing.

Every year on Mother's Day you would find Dale at the Mendota Lake with his fishing poles surrounded by the grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was that person the "little ones" would go to when they needed help with their fishing poles. He always had a tackle box full of bobbers, sinkers, hooks and fishing line. The children kept him busy, but he didn't mind. That was who he was—patient, kind and prepared for those moments. He enjoyed helping the "little ones." It made him happy. Needless to say, the children caught more fish than he did. However, he thrived on every moment he had to spend that time with his family fishing.

He made great fishing memories with everyone that he had ever known. He will definitely be remembered due to his love of fishing.

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



Bloodmobile held June 27

MENDOTA—The American Red Cross held a blood drive on June 27 at the Mendota Moose Family Center.

There were 68 good units collected. There were 50 whole blood and 18 double red cell donations. There were also several multi-gallon donors: Ruth Straw-1 gallon, Lynnette Stover-2 gallons, Thomas Leffelman and Joseph Masini-5 gallons, Frank Kaltnecker-11 gallons, Patrick Reeder, Thomas Sondgeroth, and Ronald Henkel-18 gallons, and Joseph Hochstatter and Michael DeLong-22 gallons. These are tremendous numbers. Your time and donation are greatly appreciated.

Volunteers for

the day were Paddy Schwemlein, Margy Frey, Sandy Schroeder, Lori Schlesinger, Kathi Stamberger, Peg Mathesius-Cerveney and Lori Simonton. Mendota Subway once again donated sandwiches for the luncheon and Black Brothers Co. sponsored egg salad sandwiches, BBQ, and chips for the drive. Desserts were furnished by Paddy Schwemlein, Margy Frey, Marlene Simonton, Kristi Carroll, Kathi Stamberger and Lori Simonton.

The next bloodmobile will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at the Mendota Moose Family Center. If you would like to make an appointment or have questions, please call Lori at 815-866-3582

Social Security

How Social Security protects you from misleading advertising, communications

By Mike Weill

PERU—Social Security works with the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to protect you from scams that use Social Security as bait. Section 1140 of the Social Security Act allows OIG to impose severe penalties against anyone who engages in misleading Social Security-related advertising or imposter communications. You can review Section 1140 at www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title11/1140.htm.

For example, the OIG may impose a penalty against anyone who:

- Mails misleading solicitations that appear to be from or authorized by Social Security.
- Operates an imposter internet website or social media account designed to look like it belongs to or is authorized by Social Security.
- Sends emails or text messages or makes telephone calls claiming to be from Social Security.
- Sells Social Security's free forms, applications, and publications without our written approval.
- Charges a fee for a service that Social Security provides free of charge without providing a clearly visible notice that Social Security provides the service for free.

If you receive a misleading or suspicious Social Security-related advertisement or imposter communication, please let us know immediately. Try to capture as

much information about the communication as you can.

Here's what you can do:

- For suspicious websites or social media accounts, please take a screenshot of the page. Please note the website address or social media link and how you came across it.
- For emails and text messages, please capture the entire message and any message links.
- For U.S. mail solicitations, please retain the complete communication, including the outside envelope and all inserts.
- For telephone solicitations, please note the caller identification phone number and any company name or call back number that the caller or recorded message provides.

You can help us stop misleading advertising and communications. We encourage you to report potential scams to the OIG at oig.ssa.gov. You can also call our fraud hotline at 1-800-269-0271 or send an email to OIG.1140@ssa.gov.

This information will help OIG locate the source of the suspicious solicitation or communication. You can also check out our publication, What You Need to Know About Misleading Advertising, at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10005.pdf.

Please share this information with friends and family and help us spread the word on social media.

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

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

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LOCAL AND AREA

Annie

Continued from Page A1

Warbucks, Justin Setchell is Rooster Hannigan, Stephanie Benson plays Lily St. Regis, Spencer Kain is Drake, Kevin Wohrley takes a seat in the White House as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Matt Grenter is Burt Healy, and the Boylan sisters are Carley Burke, Missy Krull, Jacqui Margowski.

“Right now, we’re working with a bare stage and getting choreography, lights, sound, and everything adjusted, but after the Fourth of July everything will start to appear,” said Benson. “We have three pianists and sometimes we have two at a time where one will work on stage with choreography and the other will work in another room with individual singers. We have a lot of talent and everything is coming together.”

Cervantes as Annie isn’t the only orphan in the play

as Brylen Bock, Jacqueline Bryson, Natalia Diza, Kennedy McCollom, Linda McDonald, Catherine Moench, Lillee Monterastelli, Lyla Pecher, Kamilah Preciado, Jaclynn Ridge, Cora Roether, Brooklyn Russell, Gabby Smith, Maycie Sproston, Cici Verucchi, and Molly Wilson will also be orphans.

Hoooverville folks, servants, New York City ensemble, and Roosevelt’s cabinet members will be played by Shelby Bentley, Gracie Botts, Rey Cervantes, Melissa Clark, Emma Dearling, Kyra Finley, Abigail Fox, Frank Hochstatter, Paul Hochstatter Ellen Jacobs, Myracle Johnson, Delila Kent, Arrow Kleckner, Ella Lewis, Kaylee MacDonald, Mackenzie McCoy, Sophie Pappas, Gage Richey, Cailynn Roderick, Brianna Russell, Owen Schroeder, Natalie Suarez, Miranda Wheeler, James Whitmore, and Linda Whitmore.

Tax

Continued from Page A1

the motor fuel tax and indexed it to increase at the rate of the federal government’s Consumer Price Index each year.

The motor fuel tax revenue, combined with one-time increases to license and registration fees that took effect in 2020, provided the funding backbone of the state’s \$33.2 billion six-year infrastructure plan for road and bridge upkeep, dubbed Rebuild Illinois.

According to the governor’s office, Rebuild Illinois has funded \$10.9 billion of upgrades as of March 31, including 4,913 miles of roads, 479 structures, and 709 other safety improvements.

Last year’s July 1 motor fuel tax increase was delayed six months, so the per-gallon tax already increased by 3.1 cents in January, Pritzker last

year estimated that the temporary pause on the gas tax hike would have saved consumers about \$70 million.

As part of last year’s tax relief plan, lost motor fuel tax revenues were replaced by money from the state’s Leaking Underground Storage Tank fund, which is historically paid into by fees and fines related to underground chemical storage tanks, such as those at gas stations.

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Cross

Continued from Page A1

For John Cross, the sale was a little sad, but more exciting as another door of life opened.

“It was a little bittersweet, but I don’t have any regret,” Cross said. “It was time. I was ready. Michael was ready. It’s time to move on. It is what it is. That’s the way life is.”

“I don’t know what the next chapter is exactly, yet.

I’m trying to get used to the fact that I don’t have to swallow my cup of coffee and be to work at 7:45 a.m. The wife, Catherine, and I are thinking about doing some more traveling and doing things you do when you retire. I’m not ready to look for a part-time job.

“We had a good run in Mendota. We thank everyone, all of our customers, for everything over the years.”

City Ordinance-Public Nuisances

MENDOTA—The Mendota Police Department would like to remind home and business owners of city ordinances regarding public nuisances.

It is against city ordinance to have accumulations of trash, building materials, abandoned automobiles, machinery, scrap metal, discarded tires, vehicle batteries or any other material that creates a public health hazard on your property. It is also a violation to permit weeds, grass or plants other than trees, bushes or flowers or other ornamental plants to grow to a height exceeding six inches anywhere in the city. Also, all multi-family structures, including structures that consist of both residential and commercial units, and structures which share a wall or walls with another structure, shall be kept free from infestations of insects (including but not limited to bedbugs, cockroaches and disease-carrying insects), rats or other vermin.

The city of Mendota requests anyone who is in violation of the above mentioned nuisance regulations to remove the item(s) from your property. Anyone found in violation will be subject to receiving a citation, which involves a court date and fine.

New legislation alters Illinois’ health insurance market

By PETER HANCOCK

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker signed legislation June 27 that will dramatically alter the health insurance market in Illinois.

The measures establish a state-based exchange for policies sold under the Affordable Care Act and give the Illinois Department of Insurance the authority to modify or reject proposed rate increases.

“Since day one of my administration, I’ve been committed to making health care more equitable and holistic and accessible,” Pritzker said at a bill signing ceremony in Chicago. “With these bills, we aren’t just increasing access to affordable preventative care, we’re improving the quality of life for millions who call Illinois home.”

Under the Affordable Care Act, people who are not eligible for Medicaid but who do not have access to affordable health insurance through their employer can buy subsidized policies through an online exchange operated by either the federal government or their state government.

Illinois, however, was among the states that chose not to set up its own exchange. Instead, it pays an annual fee so Illinois residents can use the federal exchange.

That will change under House Bill 579, which calls on the Department of Insur-

“With these bills, we aren’t just increasing access to affordable preventative care, we’re improving the quality of life for millions who call Illinois home.”

—Gov. JB Pritzker

ance to set up a state-based exchange that will be fully operational by 2026.

Dana Popish-Severinghaus, director of the Insurance Department, said after the bill signing that having a state-based exchange ultimately will make it easier for Illinois consumers to shop for insurance.

“I think it’s ultimately our goal that Illinois consumers can have a one-stop shop where, whether they need to enroll in an ACA plan or a Medicaid plan or, you know, their family is split, we can do that in one place for them to make it as easy as possible,” she said.

Pritzker said having a state-based exchange will give Illinois the flexibility to offer more enrollment periods during the year than the federal exchange offers and to coordinate with nonprofit organizations that help people navigate the marketplace.

But perhaps more importantly, Pritzker said, it will protect Illinois consumers from any potential changes in federal policy. During the Trump administration, funding for advertising and nonprofit groups to help people sign up for insurance were slashed and the yearly number of enrollment days was cut roughly in half.

A dry June prolonged Illinois’ drought

CHAMPAIGN—Dry weather from April to June has caused the most serious drought in Illinois since 2012, according to Illinois State Climatologist Trent Ford at the Illinois State Water Survey. In June, crop conditions worsened, and the air quality at the end of the month was the worst the state has seen in years.

Total June precipitation ranged from less than 1 inch in parts of southwest Illinois to over 6 inches in southeast Illinois. Most of the state was 1 to 4 inches drier than normal in June.

The preliminary statewide total June precipitation is still being calculated because of late-month rainfall. It is likely that last month will be among the top 10 driest Junes on record statewide.

Drought: Soils throughout the state are very to extremely dry down to 12 inches and in some places down to 20 inches. Streams and ponds are much lower than normal across the state, but conditions have not progressed to affect rural wells or municipal water supply.

Agricultural impacts have multiplied in the past few weeks, including visible stunting and stress in corn and beans, especially late-planted beans. Producers have reported spider mite damage, which is a common problem in drought years. It is not clear if the drought has yet caused widespread, significant yield loss in corn or beans.

“The critical growth stages of both crops tend to occur in the last few weeks of July and first week of August, so there may still be an opportunity for a decent crop if the state can get more consistent rain throughout July,” Ford said.

Pasture conditions remain poor in many areas, with little regrowth since the first cutting of hay, which increases concerns of hay supplies later this year. Mature trees in central and northern Illinois are showing significant stress from the prolonged dry conditions, including dropping leaves. Lawns in many places have been dormant since Memorial Day.

The most recent U.S. Drought Monitor map shows over 90 percent of the state in at least moderate drought and over half of the state now in severe drought.

“The recent rain will at least stall worsening drought conditions and may help to improve conditions in some places,” Ford said. “But we will need at least another three to four weeks of consistent rain of 1 to 1.5 inches per week to improve drought conditions in earnest.”

Outlooks: July is the climatological hottest month of the year in Illinois and can make or break a growing season with its rain, or lack thereof, Ford said. The first week of July is looking wetter than normal, with widespread forecasted totals exceeding 1 inch across the state. The latest 8- to 14-day outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center lean toward wetter than normal, hopefully continuing that wetter trend. Although the drought in Illinois will take many weeks to break, wetter conditions in July can help limit drought impacts moving into late summer.

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OPINION



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A house divided

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD — Please fill in the blank: “Our Father who art in heaven ____ be thy name.

This month, that question came up on the television gameshow Jeopardy and none of the otherwise smart contestants could answer that question.

The social media universe exploded with indignation. (In case you are wondering, the correct word is “hallowed.”)

The Rev. Franklin Graham said, “We have lost so much Biblical literacy & basic awareness of the things of God’s Word. This moving away from Biblical values will equal double jeopardy for our nation.”

To be honest, I admired Graham’s father, Billy, but after several years of listening to Franklin Graham bow before the altar of Donald Trump, I’ve come to the conclusion that the Graham gene pool might need a new lifeguard. His dad he ain’t.

But even a stopped clock is right twice a day. And Graham is on to something here. In many ways our society is becoming increasingly ignorant of scripture.

For centuries the Bible has been a common cultural reference point that bound our nation. When Abraham Lincoln gave his House Divided speech, he was quoting from the book of Matthew.

When I was in high school, the rock group Iron Maiden came out with the tune, “Hallowed be thy name” proving that scriptural knowledge can give insight into heavy metal music.

When Ben Franklin sent his “olive branch petition” to King George III it was a plea from colonists to avoid war with Great Britain. But its name came from a Biblical reference. (A dove bearing an olive branch returned to Noah’s Ark and it has become a symbol of peace.)

A few years ago, I interviewed Gwen Jordan, who was then an associate professor of legal studies at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

In a class Jordan is teaching at UIS, she discovered none of her students in the law and society class knew who Pontius Pilate was. (In case you need a reminder, he was a really bad governor — almost as bad as Rod Blagojevich and Bruce Rauner.)

Jordan was teaching from Rosco Pound’s tome “What is Law” where Pound ponders: “What is Truth?” That, of course, was the question Pilate asked Jesus Christ shortly before he ordered his crucifixion.

In case you think Jordan is a religious zealot, think again. She grew up Presbyterian in Peoria, later dabbled at being a Unitarian and now just calls herself “spiritual.”

In Illinois, towns such as Athens, Mt. Zion, Zion, Hebron, Salem, Rome, Mount Olive and Bethany all derive their names from biblical references. Basic knowledge of scripture helps us understand our own heritage.

What Jordan is experiencing in the classroom is what my college civil liberties professor, Donald Boles, warned of more than 35 years ago. Boles was one of the foremost experts on the intersection of religion and public schools.

He agreed with the 1963 Supreme Court decision, Abington Township v. Schempp, which prohibited mandatory recitation of Bible verses in public schools. But he feared school administrators (modern day scribes and Pharisees) would use the ruling as a legal pretext to eliminate classes dealing with religion.

But the high court said just the opposite in their landmark ruling:

“In addition, it might well be said that one’s education is not complete without a study of comparative religion or the history of religion and its relationship to the advancement of civilization. It certainly may be said that the Bible is worthy of study for its literary and historic qualities. Nothing we have said here indicates that such study of the Bible or of religion, when presented objectively as part of a secular program of education, may not be effected consistently with the First Amendment.”

In other words, public schools should not be in the business of proselytizing. But it should be educating about religion.

Sadly, Professor Boles was prophetic. Schools have cut back on the religion courses during the past half century. And it has resulted in a growing ignorance of even the most basic biblical references.

This has had a corrosive effect on our society.

Common touchstones are disappearing that once bridged the language gap between those active in a church or synagogue and those who are not.

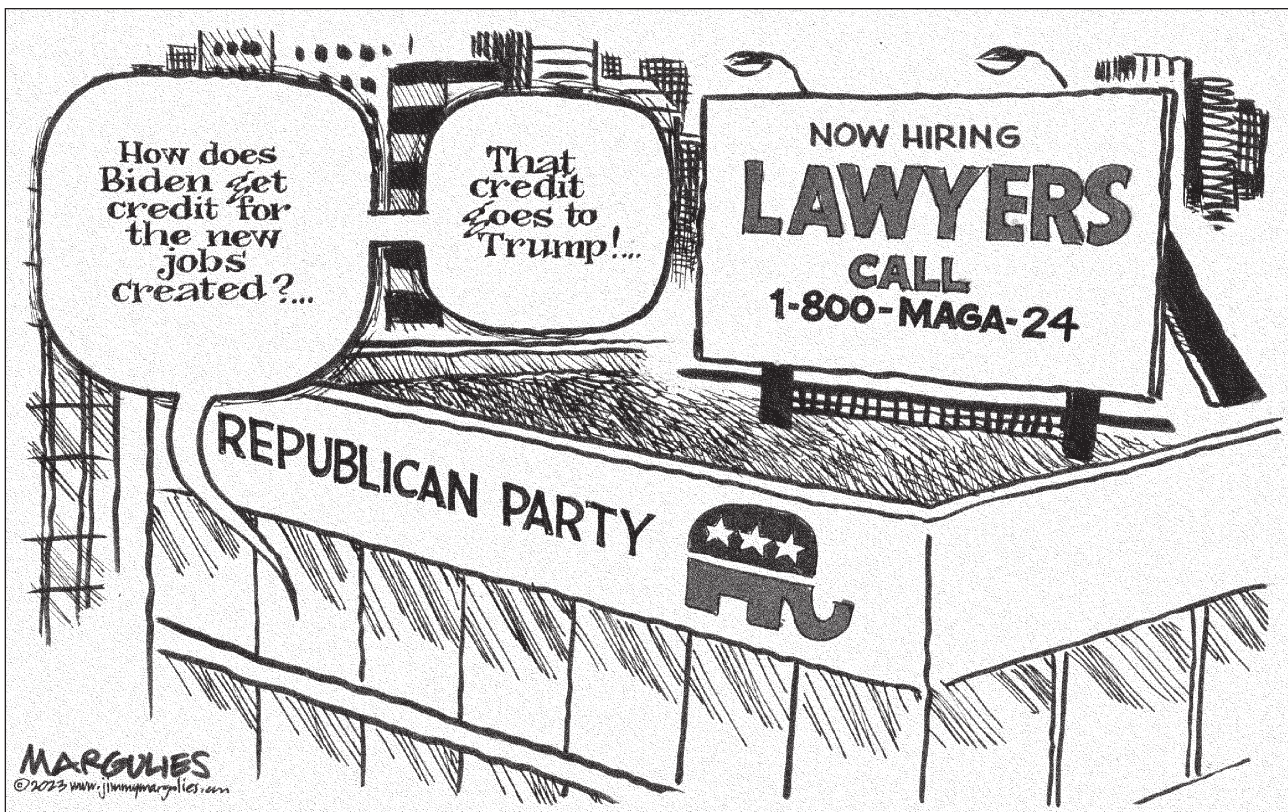
Abraham Lincoln was keenly aware of the shared cultural reference the Bible represented when he quoted the Gospel of Matthew in the period leading up to the Civil War by saying “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

Could an American leader use such a biblical reference today and be understood by all?

Probably not. We are losing the common reference point the Bible has brought our culture.

It seems we, too, are becoming a house divided.

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



Shake-up in Mendota grade schools – 1921

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from July 3, 1996.)

By Jessica Nashold

Seventy-five years ago, Mendota was deeply involved in reorganizing the grade school system. The North School was in need of expensive repairs and the board didn’t think it advisable to spend all those dollars to benefit 12 to 15 students.

Parents in the neighborhood of Guiles and 16th Street didn’t want their small children walking to Lincoln. But those in favor of closing the school insisted it could only be better for those children to spend time with more youngsters their own age. Moreover –

The viaduct, good cement walks and new pavement give boys and girls from the north side better conditions for walking than students coming from the eastern and southern parts of the district.

Of course, with the influx of 12 of 15 North School students, Lincoln School would have to make some changes. It was already too crowded and the board decided to go ahead with a long-discussed plan to send the entire eighth grade over to Blackstone. There had been plenty of room at Blackstone since the high school had moved out into its own new building.

Now it was the parents of Lincoln eighth graders who were unhappy. But it was the accepted public view that these boys and girls were “old enough to take care of themselves – and are often sent downtown by their parents on errands.”

The additional exercise, except in unfavorable winter weather, will be beneficial rather than harmful.

Among advantages of attending Blackstone was the departmental plan of teaching students in the three upper grades with four different teachers.

Instead of these pupils having to sit all day under the instruction of one teacher they now will have the advantage of the help and personalities of four teachers.

These teachers could concentrate on the areas of greatest interest to them instead of being compelled to prepare and teach seven or eight different subjects. The Board of Education had consulted

Backtracks & Sidetracks

many parents before recommending the change, and declared most parents were “broad-minded and intelligent enough to fall in line,” doing whatever was best for the majority.

Improvements and continued success are the earmarks of progress. Let Mendota progress.

Mendota had two moving picture theaters in 1921. The Palace was on Illinois Avenue in the building now occupied by Jerry’s Flower Barn. A full-page display ad listed pictures to be shown between July 9-24, 1921, during “Mendota’s Fotoplay Fair.” Among them – “Treasure Island,” “Valley of the Giants” starring Wallace Reid, “The Round-Up” with Roscoe “Fatty” Arbuckle.

At the Princess on Jefferson Street west of Illinois Avenue, now a vacant lot, July 8 offering included “The Perfect Woman” with Constance Talmadge and “The First Born,” a tale of San Francisco’s Chinatown, with Sessue Hayakawa.

Admission for children under 12 was 11 cents and for adults, 22 cents. This included a war tax.

It is always cool and comfortable at the Princess.

At a council meeting, it was reported that of Mendota’s 1,200 water meters, 237 had stopped and 63 were leaking. It was decided that if an old meter “had to be junked,” the property owner should pay for replacing it.

The postal department believed it could hire men to carry mail from the train to the post office and from the post office to the train “just as cheap” as the railroad. Nine men applied for a chance to supply this service in Mendota and their offers were forwarded to department headquarters.

On July 12, 1921, Mendota’s new businessmen’s organization held a banquet at city hall. A small horn had been placed at each plate and chairman

Bob Allen urged everyone to “blow the horn.” A balance of \$220 was due on the cost of the dance floor for band concerts and this was collected through contributions at the banquet.

To support the town band, which was giving concerts each Wednesday evening, the ladies in each of Mendota’s four wards took turn conducting food sales.

These were often in a vacant building facing Illinois Avenue and located just north of the Mendota National Bank, now Eureka Savings. Trucks picked up the food from the housewives around 11 o’clock. Popular items were cakes, pies, meat loaves, scalloped dishes, bread, coffee, cake, cookies, kisses, rolls and tea biscuits.

William Fahler started a milk route in Mendota. He advertised that the milk would be “run through a DeLaval Clarifier.”

It has all the richness to be found in the best milk but is purer and cleaner.

His price was 12 ½ cents per quart, delivered.

Gypsies had been a nuisance, “stealing things if they cannot beg them.” **They were almost as bad as the pirates of the sea.**

David DeLess opened a monument shop in his new building on East Sixth Street.

Men in front of Grim’s cigar store on Illinois Avenue noticed something unusual on the wheel of a parked car just in from the country. It proved to be a mother bat with three baby bats held fast with her webbed wings. They were placed in a cigar box and viewed by many.

The 1921 squirrel season opened July 6 and lasted until Dec. 1. The limit was 10, with no more than 20 in possession at any time.

Many farmers had lost horses during an extreme heat wave. **They should have got out the tractor and saved valuable steeds.**

The events in Russia are stunning, but expected

By Rich Lowry

On the one hand, events in Russia this past weekend were stunning -- the leader of a mercenary group declaring against the country’s military leadership and, for 24 hours, marching on Moscow.

On the other, they were about what you’d expect in a Russia that, across the long centuries of its existence, has never managed to achieve Western standards of self-government.

Everything we need to know about Russia was made clear by its brutish, cynical and incompetent invasion of Ukraine. But the blowback from the invasion in the form Wagner Group leader Yevgeny Prigozhin’s brief armed revolt fills out the picture.

Revolutions, attempted rebellions, assassinations and coups dot the Russian historical landscape. This isn’t unusual in old nations. What makes Russia different is that it is dealing with them to this day.

England had a no-kidding war between the king and parliament ... more than 350 years ago. Boris Yeltsin had a battle with the parliament that resulted in the parliamentary building getting shelled by tanks ... in 1993.

If Prigozhin hadn’t turned back, Russian tanks might have been battling in the streets of Moscow once again.

“Getting to Denmark” is the phrase social scientists use for achieving the modern standard of government.

“For people in developing countries,” Francis Fukuyama has written, “‘Denmark’ is a mythical place that is known to have good political and economic institutions: It is stable, democratic, peaceful, prosperous, inclusive, and has extremely low levels of political corruption. Everyone would like to figure out how to transform Somalia, Haiti, Nigeria, Iraq or Afghanistan into ‘Denmark.’”

Russia has never gotten to Denmark, either, although if it ever succeeded in taking back the Baltics by force, at least it’d be geographically closer.

Russia’s distance from the Western standard is why a country that is a member of the U.N. security council and the G20 and considers itself a great power could have a crisis with a distinct Third World flavor. An ambitious military leader who has a personal following making a bid for

power is what we expect in places like Paraguay, Ecuador and Honduras. Except none of them have nuclear warheads; Russia has 6,000 of them.

Establishing a norm of the peaceful transfer of power is one of the most valuable achievements of the modern West. Otherwise, history tells us, rival contenders for power will kill one another and cut paths of destruction through their societies. The most extreme example is the Western Roman Empire that dissipated enormous resources on constant internal battles for power, setting the predicate for its fall.

Opacity, conspiracy, double-dealing, and lies are endemic to human nature, and all politics. But the West manages to circumscribe them somewhat through accountable government, the rule of law, and norms around transparency. In Russia, it’s different. It may be a very long time before we know everything that was going on with Prigozhin’s revolt, if ever.

In a speech last year, Vladimir Putin railed against the West’s “undivided dominance over world affairs” and blamed it for holding down what it regards as “second-class civilizations.”

The sense of bristling defensiveness in that statement is understandable. A couple millennia after Athens and a couple hundred years after the modern democratic revolution, Russia still has a de facto tsar. Whereas we read about poisonings in history books telling the story of medieval Europe, they still happen in Russia. If he’s going to maintain his sense of dominance, Putin isn’t ultimately going to defeat Prigozhin in an election or simply fire or reprimand him; he’s going to have to kill him.

The West may be naive, feckless, foolhardy or self-destructive, but its model of stable, accountable, democratic government is a great advance in human welfare. Without it, you get a Vladimir Putin reportedly fleeing his capital in fear and a Yevgeny Prigozhin likely to experience an unfortunate fall out of a window sometime soon.

Russia has only ever been able “to get to Russia,” and it shows.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Is Vanna White leaving “Wheel of Fortune” when Pat Sajak retires? I’m sad to see him go, but I hope they keep Vanna.

-- T.L.

A: “Wheel of Fortune” game show host Pat Sajak recently announced that the next season will be his last. He’ll remain as a consultant off camera for three additional years after that, but the question fans are asking is, where does this leave Vanna White?

According to Entertainment Weekly, White is in the process of trying to negotiate a new deal to remain on the show and is also seeking a raise -- her first one in 18 years. A decision about her future with the show is in limbo right now.

Q: Is it true that the TCM (Turner Classic Movies) channel is going away? I really enjoy watching old films on that channel before bed every night.

-- J.K.

A: In recent days, it was reported that the TCM channel was downsizing its staff from 90 employees to 20. Fans like yourself, including actor

Mark Hamill, feared the worst -- that TCM would be erased from our cable TV guides forever. The news of the layoffs alarmed directors Steven Spielberg, Martin Scorsese and Paul Thomas Anderson so much that they teamed up for an emergency call about it with Warner Bros. Discovery CEO David Zaslav.

The trio of respected directors released a statement about their discussions with Zaslav and concluded that “it’s clear that TCM and classic cinema are very important to him. Our primary aim is to ensure that TCM’s programming is untouched and protected. ... We are committed to working together to ensure the continuation of this cultural touchstone that we all treasure.”

After Hamill tweeted that he “can’t imagine a world without my all-time favorite station,” Turner Classic Movies host Ben Mankiewicz replied: “You don’t have to imagine it. We’re not going anywhere.” That certainly sounds reassuring. Hopefully, the #SaveTCM social media campaign, combined with the star power behind it, will ensure that the TCM channel remains part of television history for a long time to come.

Q: When are the Emmy Awards this year? I know the Academy Awards and Grammys are earlier in the year, but I’ve lost track of the Emmys.

-- H.J.

A: Nominations for the 75th annual Primetime Emmy Awards will be announced on July 12, with the live ceremony planned for Monday, Sept. 18, on Fox. However, if the WGA Writers Strike isn’t resolved by the end of July or early August, there’s a good chance the ceremony will be postponed. According to Deadline.com, if that happens, don’t expect it to air any earlier than November.

The 50th annual Daytime Emmy Awards were supposed to be telecast on June 16 on CBS, but have been postponed due to the strike as well.

The list of predicted nominees that will be announced on July 12 include the stars of HBO’s “Succession” and “The White Lotus,” AMC’s “Better Call Saul,” Hulu’s “The Bear,” and Showtime’s “Yellowjackets,” among others. Many are also anticipating that Hollywood legend Carol Burnett, who recently turned 90, is expected to be nominated for her guest-starring role in the final season of “Better Call Saul.”

Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* All the paint on the Eiffel Tower weighs the same as 10 elephants.

* The actual grave of Mumtaz Mahal, for whom the elaborate crypt known as the Taj Mahal was built, is the only undecorated part of the famous structure, due to a Muslim law dictating that graves cannot be adorned, as this is seen as an act of vanity.

* One ingredient in Ranch salad dressing is titanium dioxide, which is used to make it look whiter. It’s also the same ingredient that’s used in sunscreen and paint for coloring.

* George Washington celebrated July Fourth by giving his soldiers a double ration of rum.

* The Bagheera kiplingi spider, discovered in the 1800s, is the only species of spider that has been classified as vegetarian.

* William Moulton Marston, who created the superheroine Wonder Woman, also designed the first lie detector.

* The full name of the famous Chuck E. Cheese mouse is Charles Entertainment Cheese.

* After the release of the 1996 film “Scream,” which involved an anonymous killer calling and murdering his victims, caller ID usage tripled in the United States.

* The longest-ever cricket test match, between England and South Africa, lasted more than 12 days and finally came to a conclusion because the English team would have missed their boat home.

* There’s very little evidence the TSA has ever stopped a terrorist or found a real bomb. When tested, they failed to find fake weapons and bombs 95% of the time.

* The island of Madagascar got its name when Marco Polo misspelled it.

* During the Second World War, German tank drivers would drive their vehicles over camel droppings, thinking it would bring good luck.

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Solution time: 22 mins.

• Trivia Test •

1. TELEVISION: What is the name of Samantha’s mother in the “Bewitched” comedy series?
2. MOVIES: What is the name of the shark-hunting boat in the film “Jaws”?
3. SCIENCE: What is the most lethal consumed plant in the world?
4. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a female goat called?
5. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who served as vice president in Abraham Lincoln’s first term as president?
6. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of alcohol is traditionally used in a drink called a sidecar?
7. LITERATURE: What city is the primary setting for Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet”?
8. ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system was the first to be explored by a space probe launched from Earth?

9. MUSIC: In what year did MTV launch?

10. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the famous St. Basil’s Cathedral located?

- Answers
1. Endora.
 2. The Orca.
 3. Tobacoo.
 4. A doe or nanny.
 5. Hannibal Hamlin.
 6. Brandy.
 7. Verona, Italy.
 8. Venus (Mariner 2).
 9. 1981.
 10. Moscow, Russia.
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Chewable stick
- 4 Parisian river
- 9 Chaney of horror films
- 12 Links org.
- 13 Leek’s kin
- 14 Rage
- 15 Food’s freshness period
- 17 Hardly any
- 18 Call — day
- 19 Papa Hemingway
- 21 Boot camp reply
- 24 Swelled heads
- 25 Curator’s concern
- 26 Mayo ingredient
- 28 “Bullitt” director Peter
- 31 Leeway
- 33 Hirohito’s title (Abbr.)
- 35 Aspiration
- 36 Rapper’s headgear
- 38 “Chandelier” singer
- 40 Stimp’s pal
- 41 Christmas
- 43 Aged, in a way
- 45 As a whole
- 47 Perch
- 48 Zodiac feline

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- 49 Novel storage area?
- 54 Buddy
- 55 Kate’s sitcom partner
- 56 Aussie hopper
- 57 Fine, to NASA
- 58 Property claims
- 59 Chopper
- 5 Blow up
- 6 Sundial numeral
- 7 Type of checking
- 8 Vigor
- 9 Biography
- 10 Raw materials
- 11 Salamander
- 16 Fleur-de- —
- 20 Ham’s dad
- 21 Three feet
- 22 Slangy suffix
- 23 Tot’s reading material
- 27 Baseball execs
- 29 Fencing
- sword
- 30 Fax
- 32 Manhandle
- 34 Football, slangily
- 37 Worldwide
- 39 Comes up
- 42 Dangerous bacteria
- 44 Sports fig.
- 45 Exile isle
- 46 Sleuth Wolfe
- 50 Flamenco cheer
- 51 Historic period
- 52 Bagel topper
- 53 Nemesis

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Ryan Reynolds and Kenneth Branagh are starring in the AppleTV+ action-adventure film “Mayday.” Reynolds was able to make script changes to “Deadpool 3” (due May 3, 2024), with Hugh Jackman, but due to the writer’s strike, he’s no longer allowed to contribute writing changes during filming.

Reynolds has already completed “IF” (“Imaginary Friends”) for director and star John Krasinski, along with Steve Carell, Matt Damon, Emily Blunt, Maya Rudolph, Vince Vaughn, Sam Rockwell and Jon Stewart -- due May 24, 2024. Meanwhile, Branagh stars in “Oppenheimer,” which opens July 21, and he’s completed the third film in his trilogy based on Agatha Christie’s works, “A Haunting in Venice.” Releasing in theaters Sept. 15, the film also stars Tina Fey, Michelle Yeoh and Jamie Dornan.

Dick Clark Productions

has produced many award shows over the years, so buying the Golden Globes from the almost-defunct Hollywood Foreign Press Association (who barely escaped a diversity scandal that lost their telecast for a year) was a good move. Their 310 voting members will vote on the awards, but will not be involved in the telecast.

Audiences are finally seeing Carrie Fisher’s last film “Wonderwell,” which she completed seven years ago, six weeks before her sudden passing in December 2016. The film co-stars Rita Ora and Vincent Spano. It was released digitally on June 23.

On the heels of Bruce Willis’ forced retirement due to frontotemporal dementia (his last two films ever were released earlier this year), Pat Sajak announced his retirement after 40 years of “Wheel Of Fortune.” And following “Spider-Man” Tom Holland’s year off from filmmaking comes word

from “Breaking Bad” Emmy winner Bryan Cranston, who announced that he’ll take time away in 2026 when he turns 70.

“I am not retiring,” Cranston cautioned in an Instagram post. “What I’m going to do is hit the pause button. ... First, it will allow me to spend time with Robin (my beautiful wife of 34 years now). ... Secondly, it gives me a sort of ‘reset’ in my career. ... Exploring a more expanded life experience will give me the chance to replenish my soul and prepare for whatever roles I may be afforded in a more authentic way.”

Until then, Cranston has his turn in “Asteroid City,” which hit theaters on June 16. He’s also in the first film in the “Argylle” trilogy, co-starring Henry Cavill, Sam Rockwell and Bryce Dallas Howard, which will release on AppleTV+ at an undetermined date. And he wrapped the drama film “Everything’s Going to Be Great,” with Allison Janney, which is looking for a release to theaters.

Couch Theater

“Whitney Houston: I Wanna Dance With Somebody” (PG-13) -- The biographic film based on the life of music legend Whitney Houston is now out on streaming. Naomi Ackie (“Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker”) portrays Houston as she gets her big break when a producer hears her singing at a nightclub. The film then walks viewers through Houston’s greatest moments during the 1980s and 1990s, including her performance of the National Anthem at Super Bowl XXV as well as her roles in films such as “The Bodyguard.” Even though the film digs deeper into her more personal relationships with notorious bad boy Bobby Brown and close friend/lover Robyn Crawford, the screenplay itself comes across a bit generic and surface-level. Ackie, and other cast members like Ashton Sanders and Stanley Tucci, do their best to make the script come to life. (Netflix)

“House of Hammer” (TV-MA) -- The past few years have been tumultuous for actor Armie Hammer (“The Social Network,” “Call Me By Your Name”), after alle-

gations of physical, sexual and emotional abuse came out against him from several women in January 2021. Even though the charges were recently dropped against Hammer due to insufficient evidence, a three-part documentary series breaks down the horrific allegations, tying Hammer’s manipulative behavior back to the sociopathic patterns of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather before him. Casey Hammer, Armie’s aunt, also appears in the documentary to give insight into the secrets of her family, spanning back to oil tycoon Armand Hammer (1898-1990), and how it all eventually trickled down to her nephew. Out now. (MAX)

“80 for Brady” (PG-13) -- Four elderly best friends -- Lou, Trish, Maura and Betty -- are die-hard fans of the New England Patriots football team, specifically Tom Brady, the team’s quarterback. While making plans to watch Super Bowl LI, Lou throws around the idea of watching the game in-person. When Lou announces that they won tickets from a radio show giveaway, the foursome make plans to

travel to Houston to watch their dream team play, but they soon lose the tickets, forcing them to find another way inside. Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda, Rita Moreno and Sally Field star in this playful comedy, with Brady, of course, making a few appearances. Premieres July 4. (Amazon Prime Video)

“Reality Check” (NR) -- Three years after his last comedy special that took place in the living room of his Los Angeles home, Kevin Hart is back with a new special -- this time with material from his “Reality Check” tour, which he embarked on late last year. In this special, Hart focuses on topics similarly covered in his past specials, like his family life and fame, but he claims to be even more unfiltered than he’s been before. With no short supply of curse words or crude jokes, Hart takes the stage with a bat in hand, just in case he needs to “knock someone’s head off.” (Somewhere in the distance, you can hear Chris Rock quietly taking notes.) “Reality Check” premieres July 6, on the comedian’s 44th birthday. (Peacock)

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LOCAL AND AREA



Illinois Valley Community College President Dr. Jerry Corcoran cuts the ribbon to the bench donated in his honor as his wife Katherine looks on. The ribbon held by his granddaughters, Katie and Emma, was the original 2010 ribbon used to open the IVCC Ottawa Center. (Photo contributed)

IVCC honors retired president Corcoran with Ottawa Center bench dedication

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's President Dr. Jerry Corcoran was honored with a bench dedication recently in front of the Ottawa Center.

"Dr. Corcoran has done so much through the years for the IVCC community. We are here today to honor his legacy and share in his vision. The Ottawa Center originated as a response to our community's needs. The satellite campus has literally brought higher education to main street. Situated in the seat of LaSalle County and at the eastern edge of our district our community has been provided with access to learning," said Ottawa Center Coordinator Jeannette Phalen.

The bench dedication, a surprise to Corcoran, was initiated by Phalen and gifted in his

honor by the IVCC Board of Trustees. Also contributing to the purchase of the bench were current and former administrators.

Corcoran is retired June 30 after 15 years as president and 33 years at the college. Starting in 1990 as a part-time farm grant coordinator, Corcoran rose through several positions to the presidency. During his presidency Corcoran not only opened Ottawa Center satellite campus, but oversaw the construction of the \$30.5 construction of the Peter Miller Community Technology Center project, the Truck Driver Training facility, provided oversight in the awarding of a record number of scholarships and increased Foundation assets more than \$5 million leaving the college fiscally strong and debt free.

IVCC offers grant funding for students in healthcare programs

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Continuing Education Center in partnership with the Regional Office of Education offers financial assistance for students in approved healthcare programs.

"The Pipeline for the Advancement of the Health Care Workforce Program grant aims to create, support and expand opportunities in health career programs. The PATH grant is ideal for students currently enrolled in a healthcare program or those who are interested in making the switch to a profession in the healthcare industry to earn a degree or certificate to advance their careers," said Interim Dean of Health Professions Heather Seghi.

Student eligible for the PATH grant are supported through funding, access to resources and regular assistance in monitoring their success. Applications for the grant are open July 1-28 for IVCC's fall semester beginning Aug. 16.

Grant eligible IVCC health care credit programs include: certified nurse's aide, licensed practical nursing, nursing, emergency medical services, medical assisting and phlebotomy. Continuing education certifications include: medical billing and coding, pharmacy technician, certified medical administrative assistant, certified professional medical auditor, certified electrocardiogram technician, certified

physical therapy aide and certified electronic health records specialist.

The ROE is accepting applications through July 28, for the American Rescue Plan Act providing tuition assistance for eligible students enrolled in health-related programs including: CNA; Emergency Medical Technician-Basic, Paramedic, LPN and RN associate degree nursing.

For additional information contact Kimber King at kimber.king@ivcc.edu or Lexis Leiteritz at lexis.leiteritz@ivcc.edu or 815.224.0427. To apply for the PATH Grant visit www.ivcc.edu/PATH and for the ARPA Scholarship visit www.ROE35.org.

IVCC offering sound healing class at Nell's Woodland near Ottawa

OTTAWA – Illinois Valley Community College's Continuing Education and Business Services will offer a Sound Healing Introductory (ID 9764) class on Friday, July 14 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Nell's Woodland, 2000 Alexis Ave., a nonprofit 58-acre nature preserve on the north side of Ottawa.

"There are sounds all around us every day. Those sounds generate vibrations we may not even be aware of. Sound healing is an alternative therapy available to us all. This class will introduce participants to awareness of surrounding sounds and address new ways to embrace sounds toward relaxation and the reduction of ambient noise and stress," said Community Program Manager Kim Koehler.

Adults 18 years of age and older looking for the opportunity to enter into sound healing, breathwork, mantra and meditation will learn conscious awareness of breath tone and vibration. Instruction will be given on how self-heal-



Illinois Valley Community College Vice-President for Student Services Mark Gryzbowski and Interim Dean of Health Professions Heather Seghi meeting in the peaceful atmosphere of Nell's Woodland. (Photo contributed)

ing is a part of everyone's true nature and how we can tap that internal resource.

Sound Healing Introductory is led by Abby Zukowski. Participants are asked to wear comfortable clothing

and to bring a yoga mat if possible. The cost is \$29.

For further information on adult and youth programs or to register visit ivcc.edu/nellswoodland or 815.224.0427.



Rep. Fritts to visit Mendota on July 12th

MENDOTA – State Representative Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) has officially begun his 2023 Summer Tour.

Rep. Fritts will be at the Mendota City Building, 800 Washington St., from 10-11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 12. Rep. Fritts will also be traveling to local businesses and municipal governments to better understand their state needs.

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

MHS Class of '68 plans reunion & golf outing

MENDOTA – The Mendota High School Class of 1968 is planning its 55th year reunion on Saturday, Aug. 12 from 5-10 p.m. at Jacks in Spring Valley.

A dinner and brief program is planned as well as much conversation. A cash bar will be available. The cost is \$20 per person, payable at the door.

To confirm attendance at the reunion, call or text Jay Allen at 815-488-9154 or Wayne Kleckner at 541-729-4452 as soon as possible.

There will also be a golf outing at the Mendota Golf Club on Aug. 12 with tee times of 10-10:30 a.m. If anyone is interested in playing golf, contact Kleckner.

An informal gathering of classmates is planned for Friday, Aug. 11 at the Mendota Elks Lodge.

If anyone knows of a Class of 1968 member that has moved in the last five years, contact Allen or Kleckner. Several of the early invitation notices were returned and the committee would like to notify them as well as update the address data base.

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THE BACK PAGE

GARAGE SALES & NOTICES

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE
903 West Lawn
Friday, July 7
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, July 8
8 a.m. (1/2 price morning)
Furniture, electric stove/oven, household items, children's toys, dolls, dress-up clothes, children's books, young reader & adult books.
1t27msr

GARAGE SALE
1202 Susanna St.
Friday, July 7
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, July 8
8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Garden items, tools, birdhouses, bird feeders, furniture, kitchen items, women's & kids' clothing, puzzles, miscellaneous household items.
1t27msr

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE
1008 Third Ave.
Friday, July 7
8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Saturday, July 8
8 a.m.-2 p.m.
1t27r

POLICE BLOTTER

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE
Calmar J. Watson, 55, of 111 S. 13th Ave., Trailer C1, Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at First Avenue and Ninth Street at 12:20 a.m. June 28. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE
Gaspar R. Mateo, 26, of Champaign, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at Eighth Street and Sixth Avenue at 9:40 a.m. June 29. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY
Brian A. Nava, 18, of Chicago, was charged with criminal damage to property after police officers investigated the report of a vehicle having its tires slashed in the area of Main and Burlington streets at 10:06 A.M. June 29. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

Crazy Legs winners named

MENDOTA – The results have been tabulated and the winners selected for this year's Reporter Crazy Legs contest.

Stephanie Prentice of Paw Paw was the winner of the first place \$20 prize. Shallen Gross of Mendota won the \$15 second-place prize, while Linda Dimmig of Mendota won \$10 for third place.

The correct answers are:

#1 Sullivan's – G;
#2 Purpose Nutrition - E;
#3 Financial Plus Credit Union – A;
#4 JC's Headquarters - B;
#5 ARS Auto Repair – H;
#6 First State Bank – F;
#7 Kerr Diesel Services– D;
#8 Mendota Companion Animal – C;

Thank you to everyone that played the game this year and a special thanks to all of those brave souls (the advertisers) for showing us your legs.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

Don't miss out on the news. Call or stop by our office for details.

Make sure to protect your home from burglars

MENDOTA – The Mendota Police Department encourages its citizens to prevent crime before it happens. Taking a few prevention steps could keep your home from being a target. The golden rule in home security is to ensure that your property does not present an opportunity. Please consider these burglary prevention tips.

- A would-be burglar will look for signs of an alarm or cameras. Let them know they cannot enter your home unnoticed.
- Over one-third of home burglaries are termed by police as “no force” entries. Doors or windows that are left unlocked allow easy access to the home.
- Sliding glass doors are another easy way in. They are usually at the rear and can often be lifted out of their frames.
- An unsecured garage door presents an opportunity for a burglar to enter your property if your garage is

- attached to the home or to find tools to assist him.
- An unlocked shed or outbuilding likewise presents an easy target. The burglar can use your own tools to enter your home or take valuables such as bikes and lawnmowers.
- A dark property is always attractive. About 90 percent of all intruders choose not to enter a residence that is well lit so keep the main entryways and exterior sections of your home lit, either constantly or using motion sensor lighting.
- Overgrown bushes or trees close to your home allow a burglar to hide and can provide a leverage to higher windows.
- A quick escape is important for a burglar, so high fences or hedges are a real deterrent.
- Burglars prefer to target empty residences. Stop the newspapers when you go on vacation and have a neighbor pick up your mail.

- Install a deadbolt lock. Deadbolts are usually locked with a key from the outside and a thumb turn on the inside. The cylinder should be pick resistant. Lock your doors every time you leave. The more popular times for residential burglaries are weekday daylight hours. In over one-third of all burglaries, there is no forcible entry - someone forgot to lock the door.
- Install solid doors. Outside doors should be metal or solid hardwood and at least 1-3/4 inches thick. Frames must be made of equally



strong material and each door must fit its frame securely.

- Keep garage doors closed and locked.
- Secure sliding doors and windows. Cut a broom han-

dle to the length of the bottom track so that the window or door will not slide open when forced. Also, drill one hole through both castings and sliding window and insert a nail or pin.

- Secure sash windows. To prevent wooden sash windows from being pried open, drill a downward sloping hole into the top of the bottom window through and into the bottom of the top window and insert a pin or nail. To prevent aluminum windows from being broken into, purchase a track lock that blocks the window track.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

What to know about replacing gutters

Certain home renovation projects are more glamorous than others. A remodeled kitchen is sure to garner its share of "oohs and aahs," while a newly paved driveway is much less likely to dazzle guests.

A gutter replacement is another job that might not have the wow factor. But fully functioning gutters are a must and can help to prevent potentially expensive roof damage. Gutters rarely draw attention, but homeowners can keep an eye out for signs that indicate gutters need to be replaced.

Signs gutters should be replaced

Various signs indicate it's time to replace existing gutters. Homeowners should act promptly if any of the following signs arise, as poorly functioning gutters can make it hard for water to get into the downspouts, ultimately pushing it backward and likely underneath roof shingles, where the result can be costly water damage.

- Peeling paint
- Cracks
- Pooling water in the

- Mildew in the gutter, which can sometimes be seen even from the ground

- **Water damage:** Water damage on the gutter can be limited to certain spots and will be noticeable on the



Gutters rarely draw attention, but homeowners can keep an eye out for signs that indicate gutters need to be replaced.

underside of the gutter

- Soffit damage
- Sagging gutters
- Detached gutters, which can be detached from other pieces or the house
- Rust

Who should replace gutters?

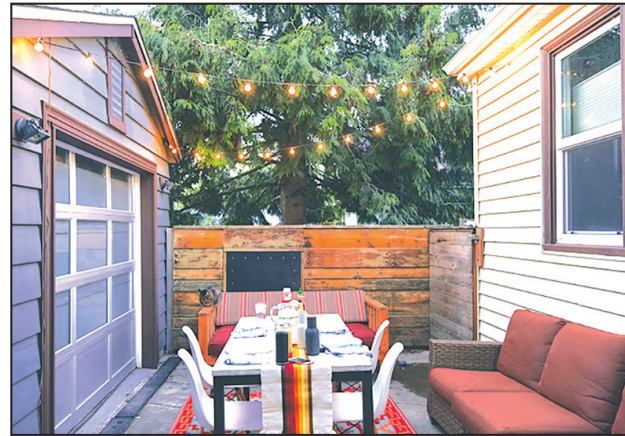
Many home improvements can be completed successfully by skilled do-it-yourselfers, but a gutter replacement is best left to the professionals. Homeowners who live in single-story homes may be able to replace gutters on their own, but the

issues that can arise when gutters are not functioning at optimal capacity make this a job best suited to professionals, even in residences without high roofs.

Some gutters may be under a manufacturer's warranty, so homeowners can check to see if their gutters qualify for a free upgrade. Experience is one of the best reasons to work with a professional gutter installation team. Experienced professionals can identify which gutters are the best fit based on a host of factors, including the pitch

of the roof, local conditions and the size of the house. In addition, gutter installation requires the use of various tools that many DIYers may not have on hand, which can cut into the cost savings of doing the project yourself.

Homeowners also should not underestimate the challenges of working on ladders that are high up off the ground. Professionals are accustomed to such challenges, while DIYers may not be comfortable or used to climbing ladders with materials and tools in hand.



A patio can be considered a transitional area that links the outdoors to the inside of a home. And depending on homeowners' budgets and preferences, a patio can be just as comfortable and stylish as interior spaces.

Five patio projects to enhance outdoor living

Warm weather paves the way to more opportunities to enjoy fresh air. For homeowners who have the luxury of outdoor spaces, including private patios, now is the time to start thinking about projects to enhance these gathering spots.

A patio can be considered a transitional area that links the outdoors to the inside of a home. According to the home and lifestyle resource The Spruce, a patio is often an oasis for lounging and entertaining. And depending on homeowners' budgets and preferences, a patio can be just as comfortable and stylish as interior spaces. The following are five patio projects that can transform these valuable spaces.

1. Pretty pergola

A pergola is an open-air (traditionally wood) structure that adds a measure of shade and privacy without completely blocking views of Mother Nature. Installing a pergola over the patio helps define the seating area. Hanging plants can add to the ambiance and string lights can make this a great spot to gather when the sun sets.

2. Patio fire pit

Build a fire pit right into the design with the same materials used to create the patio. For example, if the patio is brick or flagstone, build up to create an eye-catching fire pit. Fire pits not only look good, they also expand the time frame that the patio can be enjoyed, offering cozy spots to sit even when the weather chills.

3. Frame it in

Make the patio a true extension of the inside by

putting up walls around three sides of the patio so it connects to the home. Leave the last open to the yard, or consider installing screens to mimic the look of popular lanais. The walls will offer more weather protection, meaning you can invest in high-quality patio furniture to make this a fully functioning outdoor living room. Hang a television that is rated for outdoor use for movie-watching under the sun or stars.

4. Ooh la la

Vintage bistro tables and chairs can turn a drab patio into one that calls to mind a Parisian courtyard. Whimsical lighting and accents that you would normally think to see indoors, like a gilded mirror, can add extra appeal. Soften wrought iron and other metals on the furniture by including plenty of flowers and greenery. Don't forget the candles and a place to stash a bottle of chilling wine.

5. Farmhouse chic

Transform a patio into a entertaining space that cater to guests A large farmhouse style table flanked by benches and some upholstered chairs sets the scene for a dinner amid the fresh air. Watering cans filled with wildflowers and mismatched flatware establish a casual feel for gatherings in the space. For those who plan to cook and serve outside with frequency invest in outdoor appliances so you'll never have to miss a beat with guests.

The options for transforming patios into stylish gathering spots is only limited by the imagination.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT



Updated garage doors add curb appeal and provide a strong return on homeowners' investment at resale.

Exterior upgrades to improve your home

The home improvement industry has been booming for years, but forecasters are projecting a deceleration in 2023 and perhaps beyond. Estimates from the Home Improvement Research Institute, which is the leading market research resource for the home and building products industry, indicate that growth in the home improvement products market is expected to decelerate from 7.2 percent in 2022 to 1.5 percent in 2023. Inflation continues to affect consumer spending, and homeowners may be looking to spend less on renovations in the year ahead.

Minor upgrades that aren't as costly as larger projects can still make a big difference, especially among prospective buyers. When looking for minor upgrades that can help sell a home, homeowners can rely on Remodeling magazine's annual "Cost vs. Value Report." That report analyzes costs for an assortment of remodeling projects and determines the value of those projects at resale. Though resale value depends on a host of variables, including location, the following are some relatively minor exterior upgrades that impress buyers and provide a strong return for homeowners.

- **Garage door replacement:** Garage doors matter more than sellers may recognize, as various real estate professionals note that buyers appreciate homes with updated garage doors. That's good news for homeowners, as the "2022 Cost vs. Value Report" indicated homeowners recoup roughly 93 percent of

their garage door replacement investment at resale. The average cost of such a job is right around \$4,000, making this a budget-friendly remodeling project.

- **Window replacement:** The cost of new windows will depend on just how many windows must be replaced. But there's no denying buyers like the idea of low emissivity (low-E) windows, which can cut energy bills by a significant amount over time. The Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy estimates that heat gain and heat loss through windows is responsible for between 25 and 30 percent of residential heating and cooling energy use, so sellers who can tell buyers they have new low-E windows can emphasize those savings in home listings. The "2022 Cost vs. Value Report" indicates that homeowners recoup roughly two-thirds of their investment in new windows at resale.

- **Landscaping:** Well-maintained landscaping is another home exterior component that can make a strong first impression on buyers. A recent survey of nearly 7,000 realtors conducted by the National Association of Realtors found that upgrading a landscape recouped roughly 83 percent of homeowners' initial investment at resale. In addition, 11 percent of realtors surveyed indicated that an upgraded landscape was the decisive factor that closed the deal for the house.

Updating a home's exterior doesn't have to bust homeowners' budgets. Many affordable projects also provide a substantial return at resale.

Choosing a kitchen countertop

Kitchens are the busiest rooms in most homes. Kitchens have become more than just places to prepare meals, with many functioning as gathering spaces and even go-to dining spots in homes that do not feature formal dining rooms.

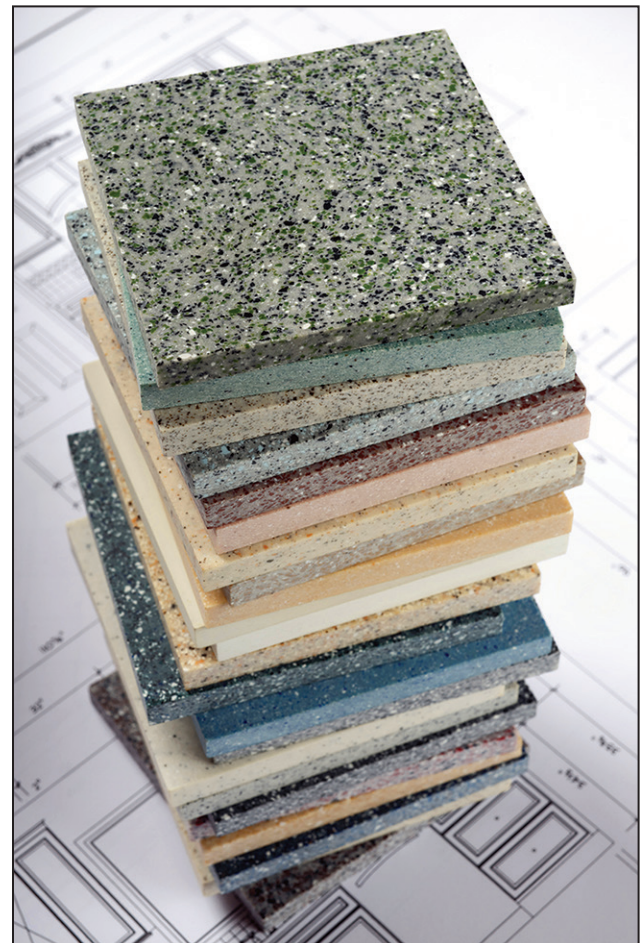
So much time spent in the kitchen makes it worthwhile to invest in these popular spaces. Kitchen renovations are high on many homeowners' to-do lists, and there's many decisions to make once they commit to redoing the room. When renovating a kitchen, homeowners will have to choose which countertop material they want to install, and the following run-down of popular options can help simplify that decision.

Quartz

Quartz is considered a low-maintenance and durable countertop material. The home improvement experts at This Old House note that quartz countertops are typically 94 percent ground quartz and now come with a honed, sandblasted or embossed treatment, which makes them appealing to homeowners with varying ideas on the ideal look of a kitchen countertop. Quartz can crack if it's not handled properly, and edges and corners can chip over time. Rounded edges can minimize the risk of chipping. Costs vary by location and product availability, but quartz typically costs about the same as natural stone.

Granite

Consumer Reports notes that no two slabs of granite are the same, and that uniqueness has long appealed to homeowners. Tests run by Consumer Reports found that heat, cuts and scratches did not harm granite, though this material, like quartz, can crack around edges and corners. Granite is a durable material that, if properly maintained, can last several



decades. Granite also is nonporous, which makes it resistant to bacteria.

Laminate

Laminate countertops appeal to budget-friendly homeowners and Consumer Reports notes that they're easy to install. Home Depot also notes that laminate countertops come in a wide range of colors, textures and designs. Laminate countertops also are durable, which helps budget-conscious homeowners stretch their dollars even further. Laminate countertops are easily maintained, though it's also easy to permanently damage them with knives, so Consumer Reports recommends always using a cutting board when preparing meals on laminate.

Butcher Block

Butcher block countertops are among the more unique options homeowners may consider. Some-

times referred to as "wood countertops," butcher block countertops are made from wooden strips that are fused together. The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that butcher block is among the more affordable materials, but the final cost will be dictated by location and availability. BobVila.com notes that butcher block countertops are highly sensitive to liquid, so exposure to moisture should be limited. Sealing butcher block countertops immediately after installation can help protect against bacteria and warping. Though butcher blocks can be high maintenance, many homeowners find the unique look is well worth the extra elbow grease.

Kitchen countertops can define how the room looks, and homeowners have many options to choose from when designing a new kitchen.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT



Wood floors bring warmth to a home and are very popular. Cleaning them correctly can add to their appeal and longevity.

Wood floor cleaning guide

Wood floors are coveted for a number of reasons, not the least of which is their aesthetic appeal. Many people prefer wood flooring because dust and dirt do not become trapped as they would in carpet fibers, seemingly making wood flooring easy to clean.

Most floors endure a lot of wear and tear. However, with care, wood flooring may last for decades. Part of that care includes understanding how to properly clean and maintain wood floors so they look their best. The following are some steps for keeping wood floors as pristine as possible.

- Remove shoes. It's a good idea to remove shoes, particularly heels, when walking on wood floors. Sharp heels, cleats and other shoes can scratch or dent wood flooring. All shoes can track in excess dirt, which can contribute to a lack of luster as well.

- Sweep or vacuum frequently. The experts at The Spruce suggest sweeping, vacuuming or dust mopping wood floors daily. Dirt and dust make floors more

slippery, and dirt or sand particles can lead to scratches on the floor.

- Learn your flooring type. Wood flooring is broken down into three main categories: solid hardwood flooring, engineered hardwood flooring and laminate wood flooring. Traditional hardwood is made of planks or strips of any hardwood covered in a wood stain. Engineered flooring is manufactured by gluing together several thin plies of hardwood. Laminate flooring looks like wood but generally is a veneer or a photographic image of wood covered by a thick layer of melamine resin over fiberboard.

- Skip harsh cleansers. Regardless of flooring type, most are covered by a sealant that can become streaky or dull if the wrong cleanser is used. Avoid chlorine bleach, ammonia, pine oil, or undiluted vinegar. Instead, choose a cleanser that is specifically recommended for the flooring type. Do not allow water or solutions to sit on the floor, as that can contribute to staining and

warping. With laminate flooring, avoid wet mopping unless the flooring is specifically marked as being able to be wet. The underlayers of laminate flooring can warp if it gets wet.

- Damp is better than wet. When cleaning wood flooring, use a damp rather than a soaking wet mop. Better Homes & Gardens says standing water can damage wood surfaces.

- Use the hard floor setting. When vacuuming, adjust the vacuum to a hard flooring setting, which will not engage the brush rollers on the vacuum head. Rollers can scratch wood and laminate flooring.

- Use repair products as needed. Scratch and repair kits can fill in small scratches. Wood floor polish and wood waxes also can revitalize worn floors. Again, check that the product is safe for your particular flooring before use.

Wood floors bring warmth to a home and are very popular. Cleaning them correctly can add to their appeal and longevity.

Safety considerations when pressure washing

Water is essential to cleaning, but it can be an even more powerful asset when there is great force behind it. This is the concept behind pressure washers, which are tools that spray water at high pressure in order to clean an assortment of surfaces.

Pressure washers are typically used to clean siding, farm equipment, industrial machinery, concrete patios, and much more. The power behind pressure washers can cause injury. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says pressure washers can cause a host of injuries, including:

- The strong spray can cause serious wounds. High-pressured water can cut through flesh.
- The fast, strong spray can strike objects and toss them powerfully into others who are close by.
- Electric shock may occur if the pressure washer is not used properly.
- The force from the washer can knock a person off balance, whether operating the tool on the ground or while on a ladder.

In most cases, injuries due to pressure washer usage are entirely preventable. Those who plan to use pressure washers should always do so with safety in mind. Here are some precautions to take.

- Identify potential hazards. Identify potential hazards with each different surface before beginning the job. Weather, personal fatigue, slippery surfaces and nearby electrical hazards can increase injury risk.

- Read the manual so you fully understand how to operate the washer. Read the instruction manual and practice using the tool before you put it to use on the task at hand. Learn how to operate the machine and all accessories. Figure out how to shut



Those who plan to use pressure washers should always do so with safety in mind.

it off in a hurry. Determine if it is safe to use an extension cord on an electric model.

- Wear protective gear. Closed-toe shoes are a must because the water spray can cause lacerations. Be sure the shoes are non-slip or workboots. Full-length pants and a long-sleeved shirt can protect users from flying debris. Wear eye protection whenever operating the washer. OSHA guidelines recommend a full face shield for water pressure higher than 2,000 psi to avoid eye or head injury. Waterproof gloves also are wise to provide better grip. Ear protection for a gas-powered pressure washer can protect

against hearing loss.

- Start off with the widest spray. Pressure washers often include various nozzles or nozzle settings that may range from a 65-degree mist to a zero-degree pinpoint jet. Most people never need to use the most intense jet sprays. Begin washing with the widest angle spray tip, from around two feet away, to test cleaning capabilities, and adjust nozzle and distance as necessary, according to PressureWasher.com.

Pressure washers help clean any number of surfaces. Safety must always be the top priority when using these potentially dangerous machines.

• Did you know?-Siding •

An assortment of variables will dictate just how long a home's siding will last, including the amount of sun a home receives and the location of the home. The life expectancy of siding also will depend on the siding material. Vinyl siding typically lasts between 20 and 40 years. It's a popular choice because of how long it lasts and the minimal upkeep it requires. Wood siding, another traditional favorite, is more expensive, but it also boasts impressive longevity, according to BobVila.com. With proper maintenance, which includes cleaning and refinishing, wood siding may last for decades. The coating on aluminum siding typically begins to fade after about 15 years. Fiber cement siding is



affordable, durable and low maintenance, and it may actually last as long as the home itself. It needs to be repainted

occasionally. Stone veneer siding will last between 20 and 75 years, depending on the stone that is used.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT



Don't get shocked by electric safety issues

Electricity helps run the world, including our homes and businesses. Without electricity, we'd have no access to lighting, our interior spaces may not be heated or cooled effectively, and the computers and other devices we rely on so heavily would not run.

Even though electricity is designed to make people's lives more convenient, it's easy to take it for granted and become complacent about the safety needed to use it effectively. The Electrical Safety Foundation International says each year electrical malfunctions account for 35,000 home fires causing more than 1,130 injuries, 500 deaths and \$1.4 billion in property damage. Since the average American home was built in 1977, many existing homes of this age and older simply cannot handle modern demand for electricity without modification.

The following are some warning signs that electrical issues could lead to bigger problems:

- Tripping of circuit breakers or blowing of fuses regularly
- Dimming of lights when other devices are in use
- Buzzing sounds from outlets or switches
- Discolored outlets
- Seemingly underpowered appliances

Additional warning signs can include a tingling feeling when an electrical appliance is touched, rubbery smells or an aroma of burning.

Individuals can take certain precautions to ensure electrical safety at home and at work. Here are nine guidelines to follow, courtesy of the National Fire Protect.

1. Have any home you are buying or renting inspected by a qualified private inspector in accordance with local requirements.
2. When electrical work is needed, hire a qualified, licensed electrician.
3. Use only one heat-producing appliance plugged into a receptacle outlet at a time.
4. Do not use extension cords for major appliances like ovens, washers, stoves or microwaves. They should be plugged directly into a wall receptacle outlet.
5. Ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) should be installed in kitchens, bathrooms, garages, and basements to shut off an electrical circuit when it becomes a shock hazard.
6. Extension cords should only be used temporarily. Have an electrician install more outlets if they are needed.
7. Keep the area around the electric meter clear.
8. Make sure outdoor lights and other fixtures are rated for outdoor use.
9. Label the circuit breakers to understand the different circuits in the home and know which to turn off when electrical work is being conducted.

It doesn't take much for an electrical issue to become serious and start a fire or cause shocking. Treat all electricity use in a home or business seriously.

Kitchen cabinets: reface or replace?

The kitchen is a busy room in many homes. That popularity likely has something to do with why so many homeowners spend sizable sums renovating their kitchens. According to highlights from the 2022 U.S. Houzz Kitchen Trends Study, the median spend on major kitchen remodels grew by 14 percent from the previous year, and minor remodels increased by 25 percent. Spurred on by increased time spent at home during the pandemic, the main impetus for kitchen remodels according to the study was that homeowners wanted to make these improvements all along and finally had the time and means to do so.

There are many aspects of a kitchen that homeowners can change. Houzz found 94 percent of renovators either fully or partially replaced cabinets in their improvement plans. Cabinets are a major component of kitchen layouts. Cabinets help to establish the aesthetic of a kitchen and serve a useful function, providing necessary storage space to ensure the room does not appear cluttered.

Homeowners have different options when it comes to cabinet renovations, and they may need to decide if



Homeowners have different options when it comes to cabinet renovations, and they may need to decide if they need to replace or reface their cabinets.

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Replacement

Cabinet replacement involves removing all of the existing cabinets before new cabinets are leveled and installed. According to the home improvement resource The Spruce, homeowners can expect to pay between \$13,000 and \$30,000 for contractor grade cabinets. Cabinet replacement is a good idea when homeowners want to add more cabinet space or create a new layout in the room.

Refacing

Cabinet refacing is less messy and less disruptive than replacement. All cabinets remain the same size and in the same location. The cabinet boxes must be in good shape to facilitate a refacing. The process involves installation of new drawer fronts and cabinet doors, as well as veneering of the cabinet boxes. New hardware typically is installed as well. The insides of the cabinets typically remain the same. The Spruce says cabinet refacing can be 30

to 50 percent cheaper than a replacement.

Most people call in professionals to change their cabinets. Cabinet replacement can be a do-it-yourself job, but it involves measuring and ensuring everything fits and is leveled appropriately. Homeowners who choose to reface their cabinets themselves may opt to paint or restain. Wood veneer or a new door and drawer panel installation can be complicated and is best left to qualified contractors.

3 great reasons to replace aging windows

Windows in a home are easy to take for granted. Unless windows are showing signs of wear and tear or so dirty that it's hard to see through them, it's easy for them to go unnoticed. However, replacement windows can add value to a home and even save homeowners a substantial amount of money.

Much of the savings that can be attributed to new windows is related to energy efficiency. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy estimates that as much as 30 percent of heating and cooling energy can be lost through heat gain or heat loss, and aging, inefficient windows contribute to such losses. Replacing those windows can save homeowners substantial amounts of money, with one expert at Angi estimating that installation of energy efficient windows can help trim energy bills by as much as 12 percent.

Cost savings are often noted when firms promote replacement windows, but homeowners should know that replacement windows also provide numerous additional benefits. In fact, the following are three great reasons for homeowners to consider upgrading their windows today.



Replacement windows can add value to a home and even save homeowners a substantial amount of money.

1. New windows help reduce carbon footprint. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports that replacing single-pane windows with ENERGY STAR® certified windows can help to reduce CO2 emissions by a significant margin. The EPA reports that such windows can save the equivalent of as much as 6,200 pounds of CO2

emissions thanks to reduced energy consumption associated with the new windows.

2. New windows can brighten a home. Natural light brightens a room and can make it appear larger. Homeowners who have grown accustomed to old windows may not realize how little light such windows let into their homes. Aging windows can become foggy over

time and prevent natural light from getting into a home. That can create a gloomy feel and force homeowners to turn up the thermostat on cold days. New windows brighten the home and the natural light that pours in on a cold day can help heat the home at the same time.

3. New windows cut down on noise. Window manufacturers are always on the lookout for ways to produce windows that make homes more comfortable. Noise reduction is one way to accomplish that goal, and Consumer Reports notes that triple-glazed windows can help to dramatically reduce outside noise. Homeowners who currently have single-pane windows may be astonished by the difference in outside noise levels when upgrading to triple-glazed windows, which contain a third layer of glass. That third layer of glass significantly reduces noise levels, making triple-glaze windows ideal for homes on busy streets or those in urban areas with lots of foot traffic.

Replacement windows pay numerous dividends. Homeowners can reap these rewards and others by replacing aging windows.

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SPORTS



MHS volleyball camp set for July 17-20

MENDOTA – The MHS Volleyball Camp will be held July 17-20 at the Mendota High School gym.

The camp will be divided into two sessions. Session I is for fifth- through seventh-graders and will meet from 9-11 a.m. each day. Session II is for eighth- and ninth-graders and will meet from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. each day. The cost of the camp is \$45 for one camper, \$80 for two family members and \$100 for three or more family members. Participants must register by July 7 to be guaranteed a T-shirt.

Instructors for the camp will be MHS coaches and players. Participants will learn MHS volleyball in preparation for the upcoming season. Sessions will include the fundamentals of hitting, setting, passing, serving and game play.

For more information, contact MHS head volleyball coach Nicci Gibson at vbcoach12@sbcglobal.net.

Popularity of pickleball is sweeping the nation

A court sport is sweeping the nation, and it isn't tennis or basketball. According to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association, 4.8 million people played pickleball in 2021, marking a nearly 15 percent growth in the total number of players from the year prior.

Data from the SFIA suggests pickleball is popular among people of all ages. Total participation among players between ages 6 and 17 (21 percent), 18 and 34 (29 percent) and 35 and 54 (20 percent) is significant, and players 65 and older also are well represented (18 percent).

As the popularity of pickleball grows, now is a great time to explore the basics of this game that's become a go-to pastime for so many people.

What is pickleball?

USAPickleballTM notes that pickleball combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. That game is played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes and can be played both indoors and outdoors on a badminton-sized court with a slightly modified tennis net. Much like tennis, pickleball can be played in a singles (one-on-one) or doubles (two-on-two) format.

How long has pickleball been played?

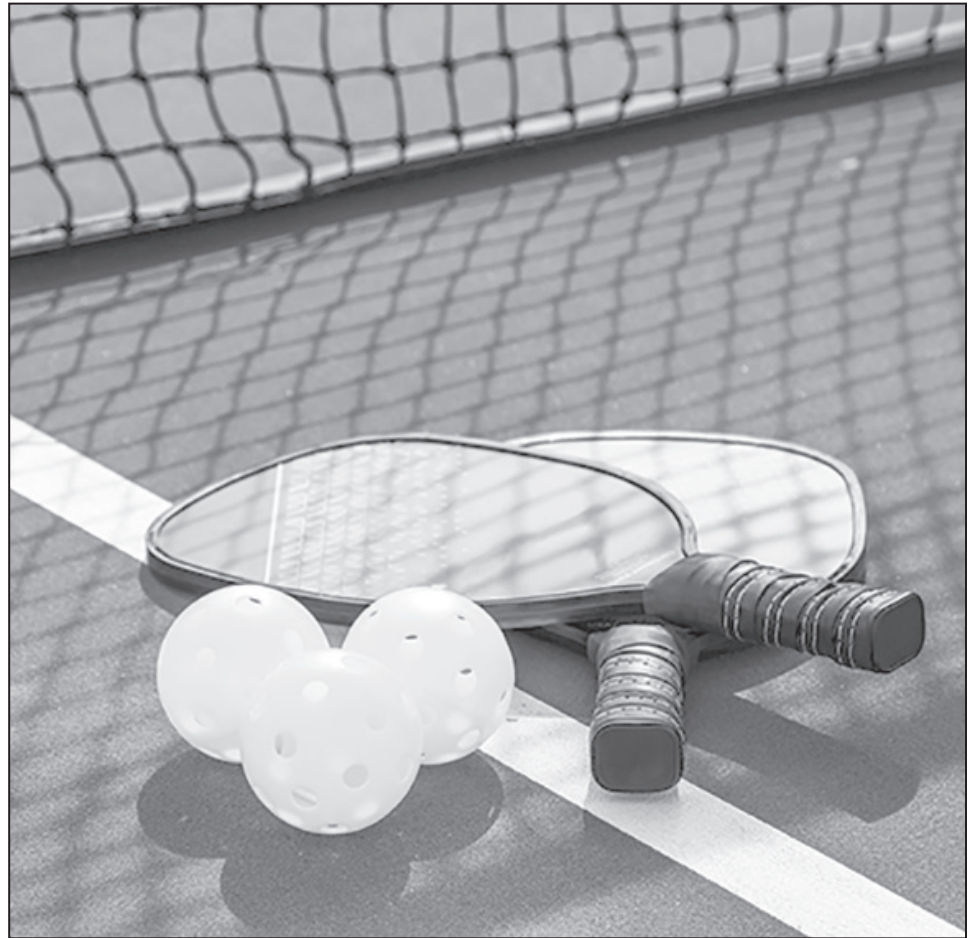
Despite a recent and meteoric spike in popularity, pickleball has been around since 1965. The brainchild of three fathers from Bainbridge Island (which is just a brief ferry ride away from Seattle), the game was invented as a means of entertaining bored children. It has since evolved from those roots and become a wildly popular game across both the United States and Canada, and the game has even begun to spread into Europe and Asia.

How is pickleball played?

An extensive list of the rules of pickleball can be found at <https://usapickleball.org/what-is-pickleball/official-rules/rules-summary/>. A game is typically played to 11 points, and a team must win by two. Tournament games may be played to 15 or 21, and a team must win by two.

Does pickleball utilize referees?

Recreational games of pickleball can rely on the honor system much like pick-up games of other sports do. However, USA PickleballTM notes that referees and line judges are important components of tournament play. More information about becoming a pickleball referee can be found



As the popularity of pickleball grows, now is a great time to explore the basics of this game that's become a go-to pastime for so many people.

at <https://usapickleball.org/get-involved/pickleball-officiating/>.

Why should I play pickleball?

Players enjoy the game of pickleball for a multitude of

reasons, including the thrill of competition, the chance to socialize and the opportunity to exercise outside of a gym or home fitness center. But many play the game because they find it fun.

Pickleball has experienced a notable spike in popularity in recent years. More information about the game and how to get involved is available at <https://usapickleball.org>.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Experience the radical rest of God

God wants us to enjoy our everyday lives. John 10:10 says that Jesus died for us so we “may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows]” (AMP). But it seems so many people who say they believe in Jesus are not really living with peace and joy.

It’s tragic to think that Jesus paid the price for our sins, that He suffered to make that sacrifice, and yet there are Christians who are struggling just to get by and make it through each day. This is not God’s plan for His children.

The truth is we can experience abundant life in Christ when we begin living by God’s grace through faith. Because grace is His power working in us that enables us to do whatever we need to do in life.

Don’t Go It Alone

When we try to do everything in our own strength and leave God out of the equation, we just get worn-out and frustrated by our mistakes and failures. But when we lean on God, we actually enter into His rest and can enjoy our lives, no matter what our circumstances may be.

Hebrews 4:9-11 (AMP) says, “So there remains a [full and complete] Sabbath rest for the people of God. For the one who has once entered His rest has also rested from [the weariness and pain of] his human labors.... Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest [of God, to know and experience it for ourselves]....”

Now the rest of God is not a rest from work—it’s a rest in work. It’s partnering with God to do what He is calling you to do by His grace and leaving the part you can’t do in His hands, trusting Him to do it. Hebrews 4:3 says it this way: “For we who believe [that is, we who personally trust and confidently rely on God] enter that rest....”

Start by Believing

Let’s take a look at what it means to really believe God. When I’m trying to believe, I haven’t entered God’s rest because I’m not trusting Him. But when I do believe, I have complete rest in Him. Living by faith is not a life of struggle, being stressed-out with fear and worry—it’s rest.

I’ve discovered that the stress in my life is caused by the way I approach my circumstances and the attitude I have toward them. It was a turning point for me when I realized that the world will probably never change, but I can



learn how to change the way I go about handling the challenges in my life.

One key to this is knowing that as believers in Christ, we are partners with God—we have a part and He has a part in everything He calls us to do. When we don’t do the part we can do and we try to do His part, that’s when we live stressed-out with worry, fear, anxiety, and frustration.

The reason this happens sometimes is because we think God needs our help. We meditate on the problem—rolling it over and over in our mind, worrying, trying to figure out how things should work out. It’s like we’re telling God, “I kind of think You need my help, and I’m not sure You can take care of this situation, Lord.”

We need to realize that worrying is useless! It’s like sitting in a rocking chair, rocking all day, wearing yourself out and getting nowhere. Trusting God means we give up worrying, reasoning, and anxiety and we enter into His rest with simple

childlike faith—we live by grace through faith!

Living by Grace

Ephesians 2:8-9 is a great scripture that says we’re saved by grace through faith. And we walk out our relationship with God and His plans for our lives the same way we receive salvation: by grace through faith.

This is possible because Jesus made the perfect sacrifice for us when He gave His life, taking our guilt and condemnation and paying for our sins. Through a personal relationship with Jesus, we access God’s grace so we can do what He’s calling us to do.

It’s so amazing to know that God is always with us, giving us His grace for everything we need to do in life. I really want you to get this so you will trust God’s unconditional love for you today. Do what you can do and give Him everything else. And when you find yourself getting frustrated or feeling overwhelmed, like you just can’t do it anymore, remember to stop, get

your focus back on Him and enter into His rest once again.

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s teaching resource Sit, Stand, Walk, Run. 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 135 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and THE POWER OF THANK YOU (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.

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Dated: June 15, 2023.
Rogelio Flores Applicant.
No. 0607
(June 21, 28 and July 5, 2023)

NOTICE

Case No.: 23 PR 108
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 death of JAMES L.
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Any claim not filed on or before the above stated dates is barred.

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Attorney for Executor
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kaleel5@frontier.com
No. 0608
(June 28, July 5 and 12,
2023)

NOTICE

By virtue of the timeshare instrument of the Fox River Resort, 2558 N. 3653 Road, Sheridan, Illinois 60551 and 770 ILCS 103/1-15 et. seq. establishing managing entity liens for failure to pay assessments and other costs on the timeshare estates held by the owners of the timeshare estates listed below.

SARA FLORES-ESTRADA, MARCOS ALMANZA-FLORES, DAVID ALMANZA-JUAREZ AND ABILENE ALMANZA FLORES, 2332 W 21st Pl, Chicago, IL 60608, according to the Deed dated September 27, 2014, and recorded under File No. 2014 22083, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on November 13, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0065, Use Period Number(s) 42, Phase 1

SARA FLORES-ESTRADA, MARCOS ALMANZA-FLORES, DAVID ALMANZA-JUAREZ AND ABILENE ALMANZA FLORES, 2944 S Keeley St Apt 2, Chicago, IL 60608, according to the

foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0078E, Use Period Number(s) 21, Phase 1 KENNETH A. BRADSHAW AND LINDA J BRADSHAW, 7423 W 57th St, Summit Argo, IL 60501, according to the Deed dated August 27, 2000, and recorded under File No. R2000 26954, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 20, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0141, Use Period Number(s) 34, Phase 2 LINDA J BRADSHAW AND KENNETH A BRADSHAW, 7423 W 57th St, Summit Argo, IL 60501, according to the Deed dated August 18, 2014, and recorded under File No. 2014 17320, in the Office of

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RICHARD A. BRUCE, 3133 Walter St Apt B, Yorkville, IL 60560, according to the Deed dated March 31, 2010, and recorded under File No. R2010 12681, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 18, 2010, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0209, Use Period Number(s) 40, Phase 4

ARTHUR W. BURNETT III and WENDY S. BURNETT, 5124 S Homan Ave, Chicago, IL 60632, according to the Deed dated April 24, 2005, and recorded under File No. R2005 11968, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 11, 2005, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0087E, Use Period Number(s) 03, Phase 2

CAROLE J. CRAFTON and HOWARD L. MIGHELL, 1035 Mary Ave, Dixon, IL 61021, according to the Deed dated August 04, 2004, and recorded under File No. R2004 23976, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 01, 2004, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0092, Use Period Number(s) 33, Phase 2

KAREN CZLAPINSKI and MARK HAMILTON, 631 Wright Ave, Elgin, IL 60120, according to the Deed dated March 22, 2014, and recorded under File No. 2014 06249, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on April 09, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 03388, Use Period Number(s) 18, Phase 6

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JAMES HORNE, 2901 W 71st St, Chicago, IL 60629, according to the Deed dated July 24, 2009, and recorded under File No. R2009 19260, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 24, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0023E, Use Period Number(s) 24, Phase 1
EMILY G HUMPHREY,

5229 Orange St, Houston, TX 77020, according to the Deed dated March 15, 2009, and recorded under File No. R2009 08174, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on April 01, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0283, Use Period Number(s) 34, Phase 4
LINDA JOHNSON, 6306 S Maryland Ave #615, Chicago, IL 60615, according to the Deed dated February 22, 2014, and recorded under File No. 201404337, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 11, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0413, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 7
JASMIN KAHRI-MANOVIC AND AMELA KAHRI-MANOVIC, 5991 W Andover Dr, Hanover Park, IL 60133, according to the Deed dated July 09, 2005, and recorded under File No. R2005 19542, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 27, 2005, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0219, Use Period Number(s) 21, Phase 4
WILLIAM LEVIN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES AND JANET SCHUELKE, 422 Donin Dr Apt 211, Antioch, IL 60002, according to the Deed dated November 08, 2007, and recorded under File No. R2008 06719, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 27, 2008, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0200, Use Period Number(s) 17, Phase 4
WILLIAM LEVIN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES AND JANET SCHUELKE, 25519 09th Pl Lot 2, Trevor, WI 53179, according to the Deed dated November 08, 2007, and recorded under File No. R2008 06719, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 27, 2008, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0200, Use Period Number(s) 17, Phase 4
BRIAN J LOGSDON AND DANIELA LOGSDON, 775 Apache Ct, Lake Zurich, IL 60047, according to the Deed dated September 02, 2006, and recorded under File No. R2006 25234, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 03, 2006, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0051, Use Period Number(s) 51, Phase 1
CHANTAE LOWERY, 43439 S Elizabeth St, Chicago, IL 60620, according to the Deed dated February 22, 1998, and recorded under File No. R99 07248, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 19, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0018E, Use Period Number(s) 29, Phase 1
TERRY L LUDWIG AND UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES AND MARGURITA LUDWIG, 1408 7th St, Viola, IL 61486,

According to the Deed dated December 27, 2011, and recorded under File No. R2012-0997, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on January 18, 2012, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0391, Use Period Number(s) 15, Phase 6
TERRY L LUDWIG AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES AND MARGUERITA LUDWIG, 1408 77th St, Viola, IL 61486, according to the Deed dated March 30, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014 08340, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 17, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0411, Use Period Number(s) 35, Phase 7
EVERARDO MACIAS AND HERLINDA MANDACIAS AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES, 3808 N Mayre Ave, Chicago, IL 60634, according to the Deed dated July 16, 2000, and recorded under File No. R2000-4358, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 15, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0116E, Use Period Number(s) 14, Phase 2
PUSHPA K MAMTANI, 686 Sunflower Dr S, Joliet, IL 60178, according to the Deed dated January 25, 2015, and recorded under File No. 2015-2567, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0109, Use Period Number(s) 29, Phase 2
HELENA MAXHE AND MIKLOJAN MAXHE, N125 Fanchon St, Carol Stream, IL 60188, according to the Deed dated August 19, 2007 and recorded under File No. R2007 21785, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 06, 2007, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0040E, Use Period Number(s) 36, Phase 1
MATHANIEL MORRIS AND DEBRA G REDMOND, 719 Violet Ln, Matteson, IL 60443, according to the Deed dated September 11, 2005, and recorded under File No. R2005-6440, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 05, 2005, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0374, Use Period Number(s) 07, Phase 3
HERNAN MURILLO AND PATRICIA ESPARZA, 1481 Lily Patche Ln, Bolingbrook, IL 60490, according to the Deed dated July 13, 2014, and recorded under File No. 2014-4620, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 05, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0113O, Use Period Number(s) 04, Phase 2
DONNA M MYER AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES, 809 N Cherokee Ln, Pontiac, IL 61764, according to the Deed dated April

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hour of 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an Adjudicatory Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor.

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

Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
Dated June 29, 2023
No. 0705
(July 5, 2023)

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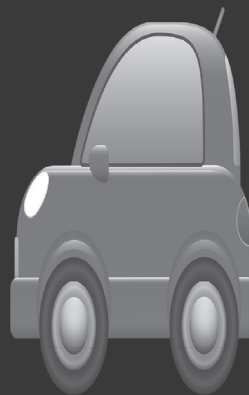
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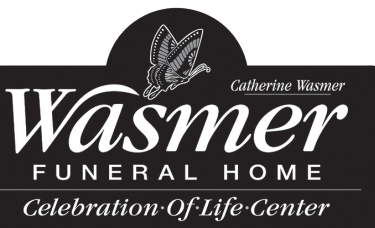
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