



Street sale benefits Reimagine Mendota
A street sale was held in the 700 block of Illinois Avenue on June 3 spearheaded by Reimagine Mendota, offering items from the fire-damaged antique building to the public. The items were pulled and placed on the sidewalk for a donated purchase. Donations, which totaled \$600, will benefit Reimagine Mendota. Additionally, vendors were set up on the street to offer local and handmade products for sale. Food was also available for purchase. (Reporter photo)

Mendota plans to crack down on nuisance violations

❑ Food truck permit fee discussed

By KIP CHEEK
Staff writer
MENDOTA – Mayor David Boelk said the City of Mendota is going to be strictly enforcing its Public Nuisance Ordinance after a recent tour of the city opened his eyes to numerous violations.

Boelk, speaking at the June 5 regular meeting of the Mendota City Council, said beginning in July, the city will be “enforcing to a ‘T’ our public nuisances in Mendota.” He cited condemned and vacant properties, abandoned cars, boats, and other vehicles, weeds, grass clippings, rubbish and everything else covered under the ordinance.

“It is not fair to the people who keep their properties up for others to not do the same,” said Boelk.

The city’s Public Nuisance Ordinance reads as follows:

‘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.’

ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Jim Fitzpatrick presented a request from officials at St. John’s Lutheran Church to use Veteran’s Park from 8-11 a.m. Sunday, July 30 for a worship service. The request was approved.

Alderman Leo Hochstatter shared a request with fellow council members from Salvador Orozco to have a mobile food truck at a graduation party on Saturday, June 10 at Strouss Park, and the council agreed to the request.

During Alderman John Holland’s report, the council approved an ordinance authorizing an intergovernmental agreement with LaSalle County in regard to Mendota TIF District 2022.

Alderman Kyle Kim presented an ordinance amending ambulance billing, which was approved. The amendment will allow

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Drought spreads across the state as dry weather continues

CHAMPAIGN—Dry conditions continue to worsen in Illinois as drought spreads across the state, according to Illinois State Climatologist Trent Ford at the Illinois State Water Survey.
The U.S. Drought Monitor now shows the Chicago-land area, much of central Illinois, and areas along the Missouri border from Quincy to St. Louis are in moderate drought, and the

northern two-thirds of the state are characterized as abnormally dry.
Among the many impacts of drought conditions, lawns, gardens, and trees have begun to show moderate to significant moisture stress in northeast and central Illinois. Reports have indicated some visible stress in soybeans in central Illinois and emergence issues in corn in western Illinois. Streamflow

across much of the state is well below normal for the start of summer in several spots along the Illinois, Vermilion, and Kaskaskia rivers and in other areas.
Outside of a few areas of heavy rain, most places have had only 25 to 60 percent of normal precipitation in the past 30 days, and parts of northeast and western Illinois have had less than 25 percent of normal precipitation since

the start of May. Chicago had its fourth driest May on record, and April and May total precipitation in Quincy was the third lowest on record.
The NOAA Climate Prediction Center shows the highest chances of near to above normal precipitation between June 8 and 14, though outlooks for more

See Drought, Page A5

Mendota Union Depot mural project is nearing completion

❑ Official unveiling to take place Saturday, June 17

MENDOTA – The Illini Valley Association of REALTORS® and NCI ARTworks volunteers recently lent a hand clearing the promenade and working on the lighting fixtures in front of the Mendota Union Depot Mural in preparation for the official unveiling of the mural at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 17 during Mendota’s Railroad Crossing and Heritage Day celebrations.
The Illini Valley Association of REALTORS® and NCI ARTworks volunteers joined the Mendota mural art commissioner Michelle Wade of Triple Service Inc and the all-female artist crew led by Westclox Studios, Inc. muralist Ray Paseka in an effort to prepare the promenade in front of the mural for the installation of the historic brick pavers and lighting fixtures.
Volunteers cleared the promenade area, preparing the historic brick pavers that have been donated to the project and sanding the light poles that will be installed on the promenade. To help defray the cost of building the promenade in front of the impressive and historically accurate 127-foot-wide by 50-foot-tall mural, Megan Bentley, CEO of

the Illini Valley Association of REALTORS® provided a \$5,000 grant from the National Association of REALTORS® to Wade and NCI ARTworks Executive Director Julia Messina.
The Illini Valley Association of REALTORS® is a regional trade association that provides professional support to over 200 area REALTORS® and affiliates. REALTORS® and REALTOR® associations actively engage in volunteer and charitable undertakings. Under certain conditions and upon approval, the National Association of REALTORS® makes placemaking grant money available to help build and support a healthy quality of life. The Illini Valley Association of REALTORS® is proud to be an approved sponsor of the promenade in front of the Mendota Union Depot Mural.
Patricia Walters, local REALTOR® and NCI ARTworks Board of Directors member stated, “Public art transforms the landscape, generates excitement, encourages tourism,

See Mural, Page A5



Union Depot mural artists include Emily Maze, Morgan Phillips, Madeline Anke, Tessa Walker and Ray Pesaka. The mural will be officially unveiled during Mendota’s Railroad Crossing & Heritage Day celebration on Saturday, June 17. (Photo contributed)



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Elks Lodge to hold Flag Day ceremony June 14 at Veterans Park

MENDOTA – The Mendota Elks Lodge #1212 will be holding its annual Flag Day ceremony at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 14 at Veterans Park in downtown Mendota.
Everyone is invited to attend the ceremony to honor the history of our grand flag. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at the Elks Lodge.



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



LOCAL AND AREA



Mendota Farmer's Market is open

Main Street in Mendota saw a familiar sight, but one it hasn't seen since October. The Mendota Farmer's Market opened its 2023 season on Saturday, June 3. The market offers farmers, growers, crafters, artists, and more an opportunity to sell their products to the community. (Reporter photos by Brandon LaChance)

Summer Reading Program has arrived at Graves-Hume Public Library

MENDOTA—The Graves-Hume Public Library is very excited to announce our 2023 Summer Reading Program, Find Your Voice.

Our voices have power. We use our voices to share stories, express ourselves, and spark change. Your voices include not only the sounds we make, but the words we write, art we create, the movements we perform, and the actions we take each day to impact the world.

The library has teamed up with iRead to bring you a fun summer full of programs for every age, birth to adult.

Research suggests that reading and visiting the library can help prevent the "summer slide", where students lose reading and academic skills achieved through the school year. This year, we have many exciting things planned, including many special events for all ages.

Summer Reading will also include programs for the differ-



ent age and grade levels.

Registration for Find Your Voice will take place June 16-24. A Graves-Hume Public Library card is required at the time of registration and must be in good standing.

The summer reading kick-

off will be at 6 p.m. Friday, July 7 with Ballet Folklorico De Colores, DJ Good Vybe Entertainment, Taco Guzman, and free ice cream from La Esquinita de Oro!

This event will be outdoors, so bring lawn chairs or blankets.

"This year will truly be the best year for our Summer Reading Club because we have been able to welcome back performers and host a lot of new family-packed activities," said Graves-Hume Youth Service Manager Carolynn Ohlendorf. "We are forever grateful for our Summer Reading Club sponsors. We could not do this without their help. We're so excited to share this with our community! Make sure to visit the library so you can sign-up!"

There will be many more events taking place during the month of July, so check out our Facebook page for more details or stop in for a newsletter. 815-538-5142.



LaSalle County Genealogy Guild coronation event

OTTAWA—The June LaSalle County Genealogy Guild program will be presented at 1 p.m., Saturday, June 17 in Ottawa by our own Rachael Mellen, vice-president and long-time member of the Guild.

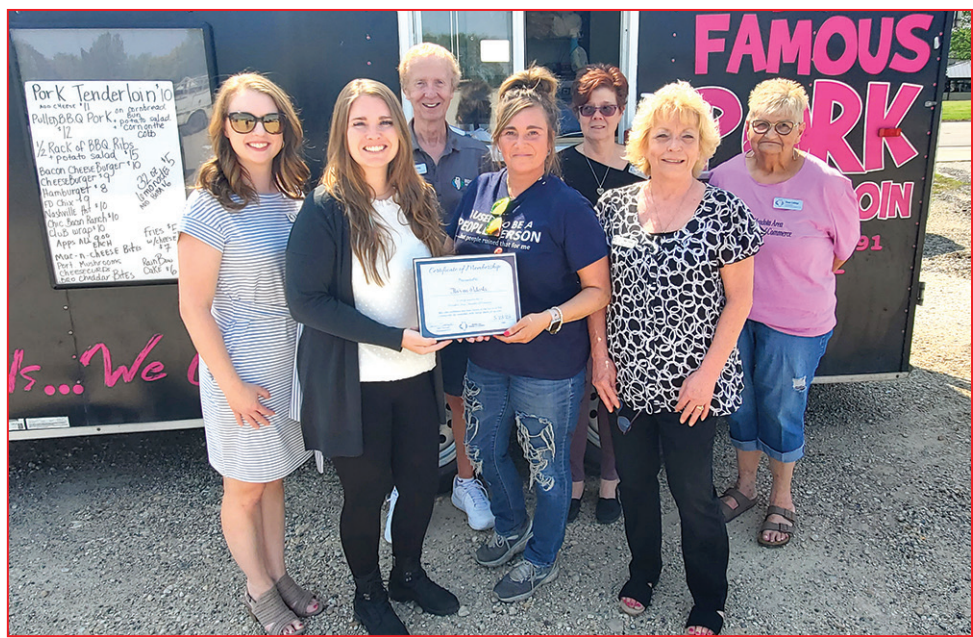
Mellen was born and raised in England and went back to attend the coronation of King Charles III.

She will give us a firsthand account of the coronation from beginning to end. She will also give us a background of the history of past coronations.

This will be a very interesting program, as Mellen has the knowledge of England and the Royal Family.

The public is invited to attend and refreshments will be served, however research will not be allowed during the program.

Welcome to the Chamber



Flo's on Pulaski

The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce recently welcomed the Flo's on Pulaski food truck at the Moore Tire parking lot. Flo's is a bar and restaurant in LaSalle that is now mobile and in Mendota. At the welcoming were, left to right, Chamber ambassador Gabby Barkman, president Sam Setchell, ambassador Lee Stocking, Flo's food truck manager Michelle Link, Chamber's Brenda Stallings, Kim Craven, and Dessa Collings. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)



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LOCAL AND AREA

“Eat, drink & be giving” St. Bede Auction continues tradition into fourth decade

PERU – St. Bede Academy will host its 40th annual Auction on Saturday, June 10, in the Perino Science Center. This year’s theme is “Eat, drink & be giving.”

The auction has been a St. Bede tradition for four decades. The first event, held in 1984, was created as a way to help balance the St. Bede Academy budget. The premiere fundraising event itself has seen a lot of change over the years, however its mission to help offset the budget, has remained the same. Since its inception, the St. Bede Auction has raised just shy of \$7 million for the academy.

What’s neat about St. Bede’s auction is that alumni and friends from all over the world participate through its mobile bidding feature. This

year’s online silent auction launched June 1 and is open to anyone who wishes to bid on the packages being offered. More than 100 packages can be viewed at <https://bede40.biddi.com>. Just simply register and start making bids. Bidding ends at 7:45 p.m. June 10.

St. Bede’s Auction and Special Events Manager Bonnie Prokup is excited to announce that 15 premium live auctions items will also be up for bid. These are items that will only be up for bid on June 10. These high-value items include a fully-catered party for 50 guests, donated by Tony’s Butt Shack of Hollowayville; Chicago Bulls floor seat tickets, VIP parking and access to the members-only Kettle One Club, donated by Paul and Joanna Perona

of LaSalle; VIP Madonna tickets you can no longer find for sale, donated by the Class of ’76; a multi-sale package that anyone can purchase for \$1,600 that includes a week-long stay at a resort of the buyer’s choice in either Acapulco, Cabo, Nuevo Vallarta or Riviera Maya/Cancun; an exclusive golf experience at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove, donated by Jerry Rich and the Rich Foundation; and a tour of Soda Canyon Ranch Vineyard in Napa Valley with Silver Oak Proprietor David R. Duncan, donated by Dave and Kary Duncan of Silver Oak Cellars.

Among the live auction items is also St. Bede’s annual Fund-A-Need, which has become an auction tradition that allows supporters an

opportunity to invest in a much-needed improvement project around campus. This year’s Fund-A-Need is to raise \$160,000 to purchase furniture and fixtures for the classrooms, teacher collaboration offices and the main floor corridor that will complement the first-floor renovations currently taking place in the academy building. These improvements will assist students, teachers and staff, and further advance the academic programs offered at St. Bede. A generous lead gift of \$15,000 made by Miller Group Charitable Trust has helped jumpstart this year’s Fund-A-Need goal.

Aside from the live auction items, some of the highlights of this year’s silent auction include a new Kubota RTV,

fencing from Illinois Fence and Pool, tickets to a St. Louis Cardinals game, a central air unit from Grasser’s Plumbing and Heating, a golf package to Olympia Fields Country Club, body and facial treatments from Nicole Norris MD Medical Spa, a living room sectional from Steinberg’s Furniture, two Trek FX bicycles, a private pizza party with Fr. Dominic Garamone, OSB, a cave tasting experience at August Hill Winery, an authentic Greek dinner for 20 guests prepared by Marsela Makou - a true Greek in the kitchen - at Angelo’s Restaurant in Spring Valley, plus a wide variety of top-shelf wine, whiskey, bourbons and other liquors.

Within the silent auction, there is a special sec-

tion known as the Vacation Station, that includes 16 excursions that offer unique adventures both here in the U.S. and abroad.

The St. Bede Auction also encompasses the annual Mega Raffle, where players have a chance at \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$3,000 prizes, plus prize money is offered to those who sell tickets, as well. It’s not too late to try chances at the raffle. Tickets can be purchased online up until 7:30 p.m. June 10 at <https://www.st-bede.com/mega-raffle>.

For more information about the 40th annual Auction, visit <https://www.st-bede.com/auction-and-special-events> or contact Prokup at (815) 250-0342 or email at bprokup@st-bede.com.



Blackstone Pizza Lunch
Blackstone School celebrated its last Principal Award Pizza Lunch of the year on May 26. Students attending the lunch, front row, left to right, are Sadee Gonzalez, Azalea Wright-Tveten, Adalyn Moss and Koreeann Riniker. Middle row, Grayson Kneebone, Matthew Krisch, Cullen Stallings and Clara Sanchez. Back row, Graham Phillips, Abel Gonzalez, Hayden Wheeler, Damien Arteaga and Derrick Skaggs. (Photo contributed)

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COMMUNITY MATTERS

The Mendota Reporter

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Northern Illinois Food Bank launches Food Finder map

GENEVA – Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) announced the launch of Vivry, an innovative platform and digital Food Finder map helping neighbors experiencing food insecurity connect with vital food resources in their community and surrounding areas. The new mobile-friendly map increases access to the fresh and nutritious food neighbors need to thrive.

Northern Illinois Food Bank works with a network of 900 food pantries and feeding programs to provide 78 million meals a year to neighbors across 13 counties in suburban and rural Northern Illinois. With the help of volunteers, donors, and member agencies, the Food Bank distributes perishable and non-perishable foods to 450,000 neighbors every month.

The Vivry platform, developed by the Thierer Family Foundation, helps food banks and food pantries remove obstacles preventing neighbors from finding food.

Digital features include an interactive Food Finder map with a searchable directory of food distributions sites with up to date schedules, times, directions, and programs. The Northern Illinois Food Bank website allows for users to easily change the language so neighbors can access the food they need in the language they speak. Users can also search by zip code, an address, or even filter for specific dietary needs to ensure they find the right food at the right time and place.

“These digital tools are a game changer in the future of food accessibility and equity in Northern Illinois,” said Julie Yurko, President and CEO, Northern Illinois Food Bank. “Our hope is that we can reach more neighbors experiencing food insecurity and help them and their families get to thriving faster.”

“Updated search features and a clean, intuitive user experience help neighbors locate a food program convenient to their schedules and

circumstances. The layout of the map is much more usable now,” said Chris Borresen, Network Resource Platform Specialist, Northern Illinois Food Bank. “The majority of neighbors use their mobile devices to search for food pantries and resources. The new Food Finder map scales down to a mobile screen, nicely making it more user friendly.”

Vivry is working with other food banks in Illinois to include their programs, with the intent of removing borders from the Food Finder map. As a result, neighbors near the border of Cook County, served by Greater Chicago Food Depository, will see the Northern Illinois Food Bank agencies, and also agencies outside of our network, in the same map.

This project was made possible by the Thierer Family Foundation in partnership with the Northern Illinois Food Bank to ensure people across Northern Illinois could have equal access to food.

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Dale A. Hansen

MENDOTA – Dale A. Hansen, 82, of Mendota, passed away Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington.

Funeral services were at 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 2, 2023, at Zion Lutheran Church, 27182 C.R. 3320 East, LaMoille, with Pastor Leo Patterson officiating. Visitation was 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Friday at the church. Graveside service were at 2 p.m. Friday at Center Cemetery, Flanagan with a time to meet with the family at 1:30 p.m.

Dale was born Aug. 17, 1940, in Flanagan, the son of Gordon E. and Lucille M. Kutzner Hansen.

Surviving are one brother, Glen Hansen, and one sister, Ruth Hansen, both of Flanagan; one nephew, David (Kathy) Hansen; two nieces, Angela (Chris) Worrell and Glenda (Kirt) Goddard; seven great nieces and nephews, and four great-great nieces and nephews.

Dale attended Flanagan schools and worked as a school janitor in Flanagan and then as an auto mechanic in Mendota prior to working at Ridley Feed Mill, Mendota, where he retired after 32 years. Dale was a member of Zion Lutheran Church, LaMoille, where he actively served his church. He enjoyed traveling, fishing, Eagle watching, and collecting guns and shooting target practice. Dale loved spending time with family and friends.

Memorials may be made to the church or a charity of the donor's choice. Calvert-Johnson & Froelich Memorial Home, Flanagan is assisting the family with services.

Duane W. Fassig

MENDOTA – Duane W. Fassig, 88, of Mendota, passed away Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota.

Funeral services were Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota with Vicar Anthony Windau officiating. Burial was at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation was Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. until time of services. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota handled the arrangements.

Duane was born April 14, 1935, in Mendota to Milton and Marge (Bieser) and lived in the Mendota area all his life. He married Peggy Rider on May 12, 1957, at the First United Methodist Church in Mendota. They later joined St. John's Lutheran Church.

Duane is survived by his children, Debora (Don) Black of LaSalle, Kevin (Karen) Fassig of Mendota and Keith (Laura) Fassig of Earlville; four grandchildren, Jim Black, Bill (Lindsey) Fassig, Beth (Zach) Kasper and Jonathan Martin; great-grandchildren, Landon Schmidt, Charlotte Fassig, Kade, Izzy, Jackson and Remy Kasper; two brothers, Norm (Joyce) Fassig and Lynn (Lynne) Fassig; and many nieces and nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death his parents, his wife Peggy in 1998, friend Darlene Rose, brother and sister-in-law John and Betty Fassig.

Duane was a 1953 graduate of Mendota High School. He worked and retired from Mendota Farmers Coop, as a petroleum salesman for 42 years. He enjoyed his customers especially since he raised and showed pigs growing up. Duane enjoyed spending time with his family and sports, especially the Cubs and Bears and his coffee mornings at Ziggy's Restaurant.

Pallbearers will be grandchildren and nephews.

Donations can be made to St John's Lutheran Church. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Lynn L. Dewey

MENDOTA – Lynn Lewis Dewey, 82, passed away peacefully in his hometown of Mendota, surrounded by his loving family on May 27, 2023.

A funeral service for Lynn will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota with Vicar Anthony Windau officiating. The visitation will begin at 2 p.m., funeral service at 3 p.m., followed by the burial at 4 p.m. at the Dewey/Worsley Cemetery. A celebration of life will follow at The Chalet in Mendota. All in attendance are encouraged to wear green representing dad's love for John Deere green.

Lynn was born on Sept. 2, 1940, in Mendota, to Lewis and Florence (Fransen) Dewey of Triumph.

Lynn's children are Eric Dewey/Amy Northcutt of Highland and Beth Dewey/Jeff Rager of Manhattan Beach, Calif. Lynn's siblings include Lorraine Van Etten, Lauren Dewey (deceased) and Steve Dewey (deceased). Lynn has five handsome grandsons, Patrick Rager, Tyler Rager, Noah Rager, Austin Dewey, and Ethan Dewey that will carry on his incredible legacy.

Lynn graduated from Mendota High School in 1958. He then continued on to Illinois Valley Community College, where he played football and earned his AA degree. He continued his education at Illinois State University, where he earned both a Bachelor's degree in 1964 and then his Masters's degree in Education in 1987. He then embarked on a successful teaching and school administration career, all while managing his beloved farm. Lynn was a member of the Mendota Elks and the Masonic Lodge.

Lynn will be remembered most for his easygoing demeanor and the big smile that graced his face every time you encountered him. He was beyond positive and a beacon of light for those around him.

Memorials may be directed to the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Wayne E. Bettner

PAW PAW – Wayne Edward Bettner, 89, of Paw Paw, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 30, 2023, at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford. He was surrounded by his family when he passed.

Funeral services for Wayne were at 11 a.m. Friday, June 2, 2023, at the Paw Paw Bible Church, 410 Seventh St., Paw Paw, with Pastor Jed Cary officiating. Visitation was from 9 a.m. until the time of the service Friday at the church. Interment followed in the Wyoming Township Cemetery, and there was a lunch at the church.

Wayne was born June 15, 1933, to Earl and Mildred Alice Bettner in Viola Township. He attended a country school in Inlet, and his teacher was May Tiffany. He graduated from Lee Center High School in 1952.

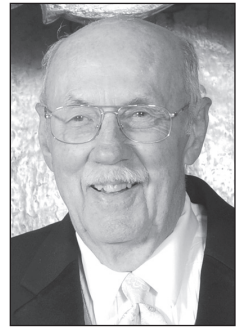
Wayne is survived by his wife of 54 years, Joyce Sims Bettner; his son Robert (Claudette) Bettner of Paw Paw; daughters Debra Bettner of Sandwich, and Nora (Glenn) Miller of Hinckley; grandsons Johnny Weir of Hainesville and Tyler Miller of Amboy; granddaughters, Tiffany (Mark) Aska of Mendota and Taylor Miller of Bellevue, Neb.; great-granddaughters, Malia Aska, Lyanna Aska and Lily Miller; grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the Judi & Mike Ryan family of Acra N.Y., the Becki & Kevin Hawbaker family of Mendota, Mike & Amber Tarr family of Deerton, Mich., Darrin & Cheri Hunter family of Crest Hill and Colette & Dwight Richards family of Palmer, Tenn. Also surviving Wayne is his 93-year-old sister Dorothy Lee-Adams of Troy, Mo.; his nieces and nephews, Rhonda Gross of Mendota, Jeff (Shelia) Bettner of Mendota, David Rex of Compton, Alice Otey Mulder of West Palm Beach, Fla., Rick Lee of Neosko, Mo., Butch (Cathy) Lee of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Carol (Keith) Schultz of Troy, Mo.

He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter, Barbara Weir.

He worked at Del Monte in Mendota and DeKalb and was a warehouse foreman and known for his quick math and ability to chart the cases of canned goods. He was in a farm tiling business with his cousin, Richard Bettner, and he worked at Mayrath in Compton. He worked in the heating plants at NIU in DeKalb for 26 years and was assistant chief when he retired.

Wayne was very active in his Paw Paw Lions Club and is most remembered for working the Tractor Pull gates on Labor Day, wearing his John Deere attire. He raised money for the club by selling raffle tickets, roses, and candy on Candy Day. He worked in the lunch wagon at farm auctions, too. Wayne and Ronnie Lysland started the first Paw Paw Tractor Pull on Labor Day 1968. Wayne has pulled his Minneapolis Moline U every year from 1968 to 2022 at the Paw Paw Labor Day Pull. This was his first tractor and he bought it to farm an acreage in Compton that belonged to his aunt and his father.

Memorials may be directed to the charity of their choice. Wayne's favorites are St. Jude, Paw Paw Lions Club and NICE in Lee. Please visit www.TormanFuneralHome.com to sign the online guest book.



Dorothy J. Wallace-Kidd

TROY GROVE – Dorothy Jean Wallace-Kidd, 93, of Troy Grove, passed away Saturday, May 27, 2023, at Heritage Health, Mendota.

Graveside services will be held on July 22, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at Troy Grove Cemetery with Deacon John Murphy officiating. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is handling arrangements.

Dorothy was born Nov. 19, 1929, in Troy Grove to Don and Uvanna (Brandtner) Wallace. She was later adopted by Ruth and C.C. Kidd after her mother passed away when she was 6 months old. She contracted polio as a small child that gave her limited abilities.

Dorothy is survived by several nieces and nephews including her guardian, Lori Sondgeroth.

She was preceded in death by both sets of her parents and her 10 siblings, Margaret (Wallace) Branson, Evelyn (Wallace) McLaughlin, Marshall Kidd, Oliver Kidd, Evelyn (Kidd) Simpson Osmundson, infant Lester Kidd, Gladys (Kidd) McDonald, Warren Kidd, Marguerite (Kidd) Lyons and Mable (Kidd) Edgcomb.

Dorothy attended Troy Grove school through the eighth grade. She was a caretaker for many children and for her elderly relatives including Ruth, C.C. and Marguerite Kidd.

Memorials may be directed to the family for a memorial to be established. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Celebration of Life planned June 10 for Carleton B. Mann

MENDOTA – A Celebration of Life for Carleton B. Mann will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 10 at the Mendota Moose Lodge. Lunch will be served.

*Please see more
Obituaries on Page A7.*

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Can you identify this photo?

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER:
Ramp at Tri-County Fairgrounds
Grandstand
Winner - No Winner this Week

IVCC offering Mindset Matters for Athletes

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Continuing Education Office offers Mindset Matters for Athletes on Tuesday, June 13 for ages 7-12 from 1-2:30 p.m. for session 9613 and ages 13-17 from 3-4:30 p.m. for session 9612.

Instructor Jamie Stuart Taylor, a mother of five, therapist and mindset master will help students to master their own personal mental game with skills and

techniques to succeed on and off the field.

"If you participate in sports, you know how important physical training is. The narrative you tell yourself is what really matters. Join me as I lead you through an hour and a half workshop to help you in the game of life," said Taylor.

Cost is \$35. For further information visit ivcc.edu/summercamp or to enroll ivcc.edu/enroll or call 815-224-0427.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Council

Continued from Page A1

for a year-to-year change to the billing rates.

Kim also scheduled a Public Safety meeting for 4 p.m. Thursday, June 8 in the council chambers to discuss issues with the fire department regarding inspections.

Alderman Vicki Johnson handled Jay Miller's business in his absence. The council approved a Class C liquor license for Antojitos Gonzalez LLC (former Erickson's East Side building) subject to compliance with regulations, and approved a scavenger license for Jeff Barrett.

Another agenda item was the discussion and possible action on an ordinance establishing regulations for mobile food truck vendors. The city is proposing a \$500 yearly permit fee for all vendors operating a mobile food truck.

Owners of Taco Guzman and Flo's on Pulaski were in attendance at the meeting and expressed their displeasure with the amount of the proposed fee. It was learned that Ottawa and LaSalle-Peru charge \$200 and Princeton charges \$300. They said they do not mind paying a permit fee, but \$500 is out of the norm.

Mayor Boelk said Alderman Miller did the research on the proposal and he was not present at the meeting to answer questions, so it was decided to table the matter for a future meeting.

OTHER ITEMS

In other items, Emily Kofoid from Graves-Hume Public Library asked the city for a \$4,000 donation for the library's summer reading program. No action was taken.

Annie Short representing Reimagine Mendota said that \$600 was collected during the June 3 street sale on Illinois Avenue.

The next regular meeting of the Mendota City Council will be Monday, June 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Mural

Continued from Page A1

and benefits the surrounding businesses. The promenade in front of the Mendota Union Depot mural creates a meeting place to enjoy the art and has the potential to create a connection to the community.

"Local REALTORS® and the Illini Valley Association of REALTORS® know that supporting the Mendota Union Depot mural also supports the real estate industry because as public art goes up, so do nearby home prices."

DeAnna Carlson, who has served as the Mendota mural project liaison with NCIARTworks from the beginning of the project and is a member Illini Valley Association of REALTORS® noted that, "Big public art installations like the Mendota Union Depot mural have a positive transformative effect on the economic development of the communities where they are located."

Artist Ray Paseka and his team at Westclox Studios, Inc. used archival information from the Union Depot Railroad Museum to capture the details of the structure on which the mural is based. Located in the center of a business district that is actively being re-developed by the City of Mendota, the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce, and an active group of dedicated citizens, the Mendota Union Depot mural is meant to become an iconic work of art and a stimulator of economic development by inspiring new businesses to open nearby as well as attract the attention of proud residents, railroad enthusiasts, and visitors to Mendota.

The mural will be officially unveiled during Mendota's Railroad Crossing & Heritage Day celebration.



Stephen Charry Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence recipient LeeAnn Johnson listens to a tribute from colleague and former student Keith King at the recent Recognition Awards event in Utica. (Photo contributed)

IVCC honors employees at awards event

UTICA – About 90 employees were honored at Illinois Valley Community College's 27th annual Recognition Awards event recently at Grand Bear Resort in Utica.

Employees were honored for earning tenure, teaching excellence, distinguished service and years of service. In addition, 17 retirees were recognized.

Biology lab instructor LeeAnn Johnson was honored as the recipient of the Stephen Charry Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence and criminal justice instructor Kevin Hermes was recognized for the Outstanding Part-Time Faculty Award.

Business office administrative assistant Nikki Van Nielen received the Connie Skerston Memorial Award for Support Staff Distinguished Service. Faculty recently tenured are Nancy McDonnell, cybersecurity, Rick Pretzsch, economics, and Kaity Ritter, medical assistant.

Employees honored for five years of service were Lyndsey Beetz, Carrie Danekas, Lisa Dickey, Quillie Gaskill, Brent Hanson, J. Kathy Hart, Kevin Hermes, Patrice Hess, Laura Kilmartin, Nancy Klaassen, Jayna Leipart Guttilla, Steven Mazzorana, Brittney Moriarity, Josh Nauman, Jamie Pratt, Amber Robertson, Eugene Schultz, Jane Stevenor, Michael Taylor and Samantha Whiteaker.

Ten years: Tonya Bland, Ida Boyle-Bruch, Crystal Credi, Janelle Gustafson, Stephanie

Reeder, Josh Roach and Patrick Schuerman.

Fifteen years: Del Baracani, Abhijeet Bhattacharya, Kristal Bray, Juliana Dzurisin, Mary Beth Foemmel, Mark Grzybowski, Carmen Hartford, Christian Jauch, Tracie Klieber, Gerilynn Schultz, Jeffrey Spanbauer and Karen Talsky.

Twenty years: Christine Blaydes, Frederick Fess, Kimberly Herout, Matthew Johll, Tina O'Brien, Dominic Sarsah, Richard Schmitt, Diane Scoma and Mary Smith.

Twenty-five years: David Kuester, Cynthia Lock and James Moskalewicz.

Thirty years: Doreen Balzarini, Katherine Drapa, Susan Gillio, Marlene Merkel and Jennifer Scheri.

Thirty-five years: Kate Young was also honored.

Retirees include Timothy Bias, Diane Bishop, Francis Brolley, Jennifer Bubb, Bonnie Campbell, Cynthia Cardosi, Jerome Corcoran, Judy Day, David Dodge, Paul Hartwig, Leslie Hofer, Susan Martyn, Dan Retoff, Anthony Ruda, Matthew Suerth, Walter Waligora and Terry Wallin.

IVCC President Jerry Corcoran was the master of ceremonies. The event was coordinated by Human Resources staff Mary Beth Herron, Paula Hallock and Taylor Burden. Also serving on the recognition committee were Gerilynn Schultz, Crystal Credi and Tina Hardy.

Drought

Continued from Page A1

than seven days can be uncertain, Ford said.

"It is likely the drought conditions will worsen before we see improvement if we do get a shift to wetter

weather in June," he said.

Ford requests that Illinoisans report their local drought conditions and effects through the National Drought Mitigation Center's Condition Monitoring Observer Report (CMOR)

system or by email to the State Climatologist Office, statecli@isws.illinois.edu. These reports inform our understanding of drought and can direct resources where they are needed in Illinois.



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Midland States Bank named as Illinois' Best Small Bank

EFFINGHAM – Midland States Bank is pleased to announce that it has been named to Newsweek magazine's ranking of America's Best Banks. This national listing denoted Midland as Best Small Bank in Illinois.

"This acknowledgement emphasizes our mission of serving our customers where, when and how they want," commented Jeffrey G. Ludwig, CEO of Midland States Bank. "We thank our customers and communities for placing trust in us to handle their financial needs in a responsible and transparent manner for more than 140 years."

Newsweek worked in partnership with LendingTree to evaluate thousands of FDIC-insured banks and credit unions on more than 50 different categories. Factors included the health of the bank, customer service performance and features, digital and branch presence, as well as account and loan options to identify the best-in-class options for consumers.

"Being recognized with an award of this magnitude is something we take great pride in," remarked Jeffrey Mefford, President of Mid-

land States Bank. "Providing a superior mix of products and services combined with robust online and mobile technology offerings allows our customers to experience personal focus along with digital excellence. This recognition is a rewarding affirmation of our customer commitment."

About Midland States Bancorp, Inc.

Midland States Bancorp, Inc. is a community-based financial holding company headquartered in Effingham, Illinois, and is the sole shareholder of Midland States Bank. As of March 31, 2023, the Company had total assets of approximately \$7.93 billion, and its Wealth Management Group had assets under administration of approximately \$3.50 billion. The Company provides a full range of commercial and consumer banking products and services and business equipment financing, merchant credit card services, trust and investment management, insurance and financial planning services. For additional information, visit <https://www.midlandstatesbank.com/> or <https://www.linkedin.com/company/midland-states-bank>.



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OPINION



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

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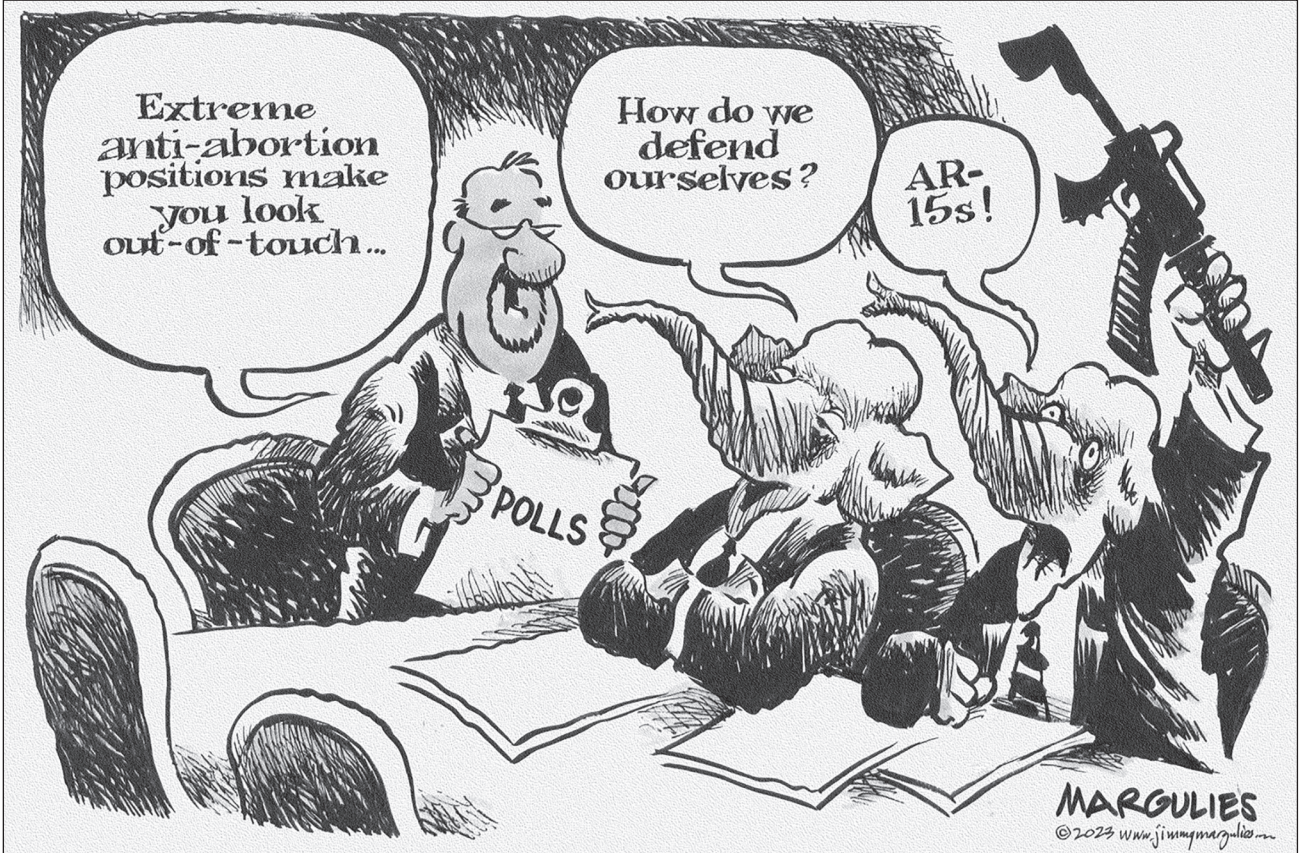
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Swimming rules at Lake Mendota – 1945

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from June 7, 1995.)

By Jessica Nashold

When The Reporter came out on June 6, 1945, it carried rules and regulations for swimming at Lake Mendota. The season was to open Sunday, June 10, at 1 p.m. Harold Owens, coach at MHS, was in charge. Lifeguards were Audrey Greenwood and Naida Bruck.

The swimming area was designated by white markers and no swimming was allowed outside those boundaries. Among 17 rules to be enforced – no fishing or boating in the swimming area, no inner tubes in deep water, no dogs, no swimming without a partner. Also – **Do not use soap! Bathe at home.**

Swimming instructions for girls was offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday; for boys, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Swimming hours for adults were 5-7 p.m., but high school students with summer jobs could swim during adult hours if they had a Swimming Permit Certificate signed by a parent.

Illinois Northern Utilities received an amended franchise extending to 1965 in order to replace artificial gas with natural gas. District Superintendent John J. Keefe told the council that savings for customers would result. As to when the project could go forward –

As soon as wartime restrictions have been lifted and governmental regulations complied with an material and manpower assembled to install pipelines and equipment.

The electric franchise was also extended so that gas and electric franchises would expire at the same time. The company added 7500 kilowatts to the city's allotment of free electricity.

Elgin Watch Co., which had opened in Mendota in November 1944, announced its departure to Aurora within 60 days. There had been a 65% drop in Navy orders. Elgin had employed 40 in Mendota. **Elgin Watch intends to manufacture phonographic needles but finds duraluminum (an essential material) almost unobtainable.**

The NAACP's stupid anti-Florida smear

By Rich Lowry

The NAACP is on high alert -- a Republican governor, with an unabashedly conservative agenda and some chance of winning, is running for president.

It has duly sprung into action with a travel advisory warning people what they're getting into if they take the risk of visiting Florida's sunny beaches or world-class attractions.

"Florida is openly hostile toward African Americans, people of color and LGBTQ+ individuals," the statement says. "Before traveling to Florida, please understand that the state of Florida devalues and marginalizes the contributions of, and the challenges faced by African Americans and other communities of color."

This is a shameful lie even by the standards of the NAACP. The political play is obvious -- use "travel advisory" to get attention and credibility that a mere harsh statement about Gov. Ron DeSantis wouldn't garner, and hope the resulting media coverage helps drive negative associations with the state.

We are used to taking travel advisories seriously, since the State Department often issues them and for non-frivolous reasons. When it says we shouldn't travel to Burma "due to civil unrest and armed conflict" and urges "increased caution due to wrongful detentions and areas with land mines and unexploded ordnance," most of us pay attention.

The NAACP wants people to think of Florida as a hellhole where the peril isn't physical but ideological -- DeSantis is pursuing an agenda that, ipso facto, is hostile to certain minority groups.

The group makes it clear that it is thinking of the governor's fight against diversity, equity, and inclusion programs, critical race theory, and gender ideology in the schools, as well as his rejection of an Advanced Placement African American studies course.

This is a classic instance of progressive goalpost shifting. DEI is a relatively recent fad, but now if someone wants to keep it out of education, it's the equivalent of George Wallace standing at the schoolhouse door. It's the same thing with gender ideology -- no one thought that LGBTQ rights depended on teaching young children about gender fluidity until the day before yesterday.

Backtracks & Sidetracks

Sugar for canning was in short supply. The allotment could not exceed 10 pounds per person and families of more than eight members would receive no additional sugar.

Persons who grow fruit for home canning will receive their fair share if those who do no canning refrain from applying for canning sugar.

Word was received that 6,000 workers had been released from the Seneca yards of Chicago Bridge & Iron. The yard was scheduled to be completely closed on June 30.

D.M. Lotts, manager of Mendota's Alexander Lumber Co., purchased the Armstrong Lumber & Coal Co. in Ottawa.

Mendota is certainly sorry to lose the Lotts family and congratulates Ottawa on their good fortune in acquiring them to augment their business, church and social circles.

Florence Andrews resigned as principal at Lincoln School. The board appointed Ernest C. Keigley of Oakland, Ill., to succeed her.

Discipline and classroom organization are part of his well-outlined plan.

On June 6, 1945, Marge Cannon Sp(S)2/C, was one of the first four to receive a Navy Athletics Award for WAVES under the NATB physical training program. The presentation was made at Cabannis Field in Corpus Christi, Texas. Awards were earned by participation in sports. Recipients were entitled to wear a blue cloth N with white border, about four inches high, on blazers, sweaters or other sports clothing.

In his Washington Letter, published in The Reporter, Congressman Noah M. Mason described President Truman as the center of opposing forces, but said he had no definite indication as to his intentions. Mason's advice –

We should reserve judgment and offer only kindly constructive criticism during this testing time for the President.

Watson Bartlett, secretary-treasurer of the Graves Public Library board, rendered his annual report to the city. The tax levy in 1944 had been \$3,015.43 and library expenses had totaled \$2,874.45. This included \$1,500 for the librarian's salary, \$422 for the custodian. Books were \$416.77 and repairs and improvements to the building for the year were \$27.64. Bartlett did not present bills for repairs and improvements made by him.

The Chicago Bears announced an exhibition game with the Washington Redskins to be held at Soldier Field on Sept. 11, 1945. The game was of particular interest in Mendota because its own Frank Seno was halfback with the Redskins.

Mendota was well below its \$330,000 quota in bond sales. As an inducement, the State Theatre offered "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe" in technicolor to which purchasers of bonds would be admitted free of charge. Betty Grable and Dick Haynes starred.

Both H.D. Hume Co. and J.B. Inderrieden Co. sponsored six-column "Official U.S. Treasury advertising" to promote the sale of additional bonds.

The month of May 1945 went into records at the government weather station at Westclox as the wettest and coldest May since records had been kept. Rainfall had been 7.27 inches and the average high temperature was 56.4 degrees. June seemed to be offering more of the same at an unscientific level. On Saturday, June 9, 1945 –

Farmers had pails standing out in the open and Sunday morning found two and a half inches of water in the pails.

As for the fight over the African American studies course, it's false to suggest the state's stance against overly politicized material in the course makes it opposed to the teaching of African American history as such.

In fact, the state's curriculum requires the teaching of key aspects of African American history, and these provisions have been made more robust under DeSantis.

Again, none of this has anything to do with travel -- if someone wants to read Ibram X. Kendi while standing in line at Universal Studios or brush up on their DEI training on an airboat in the Everglades, there's nothing stopping them.

Even if you come down in a different place than DeSantis on these various controversies, to suggest that his positions constitute some kind of malice toward African Americans or other groups is a stupid libel.

Florida is a vibrant, diverse state, where people from all backgrounds stand to benefit from good government. The state has an unemployment rate under 3%, and the earnings of African Americans have been increasing smartly. The schools are excellent and minority test scores are strong. Crime is at a half-century low.

Of course, if Florida were really a hotbed of antagonism toward minorities, Americans would have noticed and wouldn't be moving there en masse. The state has gained some 700,000 people since the 2020 census. The U-Hauls are coming because Florida has a well-earned reputation as an open place full of opportunity.

If the NAACP were truly concerned about the welfare of African Americans instead of trying to score points against a Republican potentially on the rise in national politics, it would issue travel advisories about going to Chicago or Baltimore, poorly governed cities where it is affirmatively dangerous for young Black men to live.

Such places could learn from Florida. If the NAACP were thinking clearly and didn't have an agenda, it wouldn't be denouncing the state but considering moving its headquarters there.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Elizabeth N. Lucas

MENDOTA – Elizabeth “Cissy” N. Lucas, 56, of Mendota, passed away Thursday, June 1, 2023, at Apeiron Care, Spring Valley surrounded by her family.

Private family only services will be Monday, June 12, 2023, at 11 a.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Rev. Mary Bohall officiating. Burial will be in Lutheran Cemetery, Mendota. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Elizabeth was born July 14, 1966, in Mendota to Richard and Sandra (Mitchell) Lucas.

She is survived by her three sisters, Lee (Steven) Lemmer of Plymouth, Connie Lucas of Mendota and Carol (Randy Reinmann) Lucas of Utica; her aunt Barbara Mitchell of Peru; and several nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and cousins.

Cissy was a 1985 graduate of Mendota High School. She worked at Horizon Industries in Peru after high school until four years ago. She loved the Chicago Cubs, participating in the Special Olympics, milkshakes, car rides after shopping, car rides enjoying a root beer, and most of all her nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.



New in Sublette

The Village of Sublette welcomes its newest business, NuMark Credit Union. The former Pioneer State Bank, located at 303 S. Pennsylvania St., became NuMark Credit Union on April 1, 2023. The credit union is a financial cooperative owned by its depositors. They offer financial services of banking, checking, savings, and loans, both personal and commercial. The credit union is open 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 9 a.m.-noon, on Saturday. Presenting an American flag to officials from NuMark Credit Union is Sublette Village President John Stenzel, third from right. For more information, call 815-849-5142 or visit their website at www.numarkcu.org.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Area students graduate from Augustana

ROCK ISLAND – Augustana College recognized 624 participants at the college’s 163rd commencement ceremony Saturday, May 27. CNN Hero Nelly Cheboi ‘16 delivered the commencement address.

Among the students recognized were Alana Cherry of LaMoille, studied Master’s of Science in Speech Language Pathology, and Abby Phalen of Mendota, studied Biology.

The Class of 2023 is the most diverse class in Augustana’s 163-year history, with graduates hailing from 20 countries including the United States and 24 U.S. states.

A. Phalen inducted into honor society

ROCK ISLAND – Forty-eight students at Augustana College, in Rock Island, recently were inducted into the college’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

Among the students honored at the May 22 induction ceremony was Abby Phalen of Mendota.

This national academic honor society recognizes scholarly achievement, character, integrity, and independence of mind. Members are elected by faculty. Election is less a reward for past success than a recognition of exceptional promise for future growth and achievement.

Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776 and celebrates and advocates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. It has more than half a million members and chapters at 293 American colleges and universities. Invitation to membership is a reflection of outstanding achievement. Only about 10 percent of the nation’s institutions of higher learning have Phi Beta Kappa chapters, and only about 10 percent of the arts and sciences graduates of these institutions are selected for Phi Beta Kappa membership.

Area students on NIU Dean’s List

DeKALB – Northern Illinois University announces its spring 2023 Dean’s List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Students from the area who achieved this honor include: Nelson Greer, Pre-Computer Science, and Harrison Val-laro, Manufacturing Engineering Tech, both of Earlville;

Courtney Cameron, ELED-Reading Teacher, and Kaz Lockwood, Nutrition, Dietetics, & Wellness, both of Leland; Hannah Ambler, Psychology - B.S., Kevin Cuevas, Software Development, Katee Johnson, Environmental Studies - B.S., and Kevin Lewis, Mechatronics Engineering, all of Mendota.

Northern Illinois University is a student-centered, nationally recognized public research university, with expertise that benefits its region and spans the globe in a wide variety of fields, including the sciences, humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health and law. Through its main campus in DeKalb, and education centers for students and working professionals in Chicago, Hoffman Estates, Naperville, Oregon and Rockford, NIU offers more than 100 courses of study while serving a diverse and international student body of about 19,000. The 17 NIU Huskie athletic teams compete in the Mid-American Conference at the highest NCAA Division I level. For more information, visit www.niu.edu.

Kish student-athletes earn honors

MALTA – Kishwaukee College saw a college record 45 student-athletes nominated for the Arrowhead Conference Bob Bopp Academic Excellence Team during the 2022-2023 season. The award is named to honor Bob Bopp, a major supporter of the Arrowhead Athletic Conference and its athletes. The recognition is given to student-athletes who complete at least 12 credits per semester while achieving a 3.00 or higher cumulative GPA for the academic year.

The following Kishwaukee student-athletes were nominated: Brennen McNally of Paw Paw, men’s basketball, and Yahir Diaz of Mendota, men’s soccer.

LaMoille student graduates from Iowa State

AMES, Iowa – Nearly 4,600 graduates received degrees from Iowa State University this spring. Graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremonies were held May 11-13 at Hilton Coliseum.

Among the graduates was Brooke Lee of LaMoille, bachelor of science, agricultural studies.

Alumna Trudy Huskamp Peterson, the first woman architect of the United States; and Temple Grandin, Distinguished Professor of animal sciences at Colorado State University, animal welfare pioneer and activist for people with autism, received honorary degrees during the undergraduate ceremonies.

Burn Pit hours

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

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

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



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EARLVILLE LIONS FEST 2023 – JUNE 17th & 18th

DOWNTOWN EARLVILLE @ DODGE PARK – PLEASE JOIN US AND CELEBRATE FATHER’S DAY WEEKEND W/ THE FAMILY!!!

LIONS PORK CHOP DINNER – SAT 17th – 4PM until 8PM – \$15 dinner includes 2 nice-sized pork chops, potato salad & baked beans – lemonade & water avail at the event – “to-go” drive-up also available

- also: “R’s ALL IN BAR & GRILL” – serving up burgers, brats & hot dogs on both SAT & SUN

BEER GARDEN ON BOTH DAYS SAT & SUN: large-sized beer garden serving beers, seltzers, water & soda’s available for purchase – bring your chairs to the event. Sorry, no outside beverages or coolers will be allowed into the park – wristbands needed for entry into beer garden area (21 and over only)

- SATURDAY – ALL DAY & NIGHT 12 NOON until 11:30PM
- SUNDAY 2PM until 6PM

2 BANDS ON SATURDAY STARTING @ 5PM until 11:30PM:

- 5PM – JOHN KOLAT
- 7:30PM until 11:30PM – FREE BEER & CHICKEN BAND

1 BAND ON SUNDAY:

- 2PM until 6PM – SNAPSHOT

LITTLE MR. EARLVILLE + LITTLE MS. EARLVILLE – SAT @ 1PM
MISS EARLVILLE – SAT @ 3PM

KIDS GAMES, ARTS & CRAFTS – ALL DAY SATURDAY 12 NOON until 6PM

KIDS & ADULTS – BAGS GAMES + TOURNAMENT (CORNHOLE) + “WALKING DESSERTS” – SAT 12 NOON until 6PM – served by EHS Class of 2029 – proceeds go towards their Senior Trip & Prom

EARLVILLE PARADE – SUNDAY 18th – 12 NOON until 2PM – to register your groups, clubs, classic cars, marching bands, teams, floats, companies, or elected officials, etc, please email Pat Sweeney at: pasweeney1975@gmail.com

*****50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE ALL DAY SAT & SUN – DRAWING FOR WINNER ON SUN @ 5PM*****

*****QUEEN OF HEARTS** – and don’t forget to get your Queen of Hearts tickets over @ THE LOUNGE BAR in downtown Earlville – weekly drawings held every SAT night @ 8PM***



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Tuesday: 8 - 12 & 1 - 4

*with Dr. Kelly in office

Wednesday: 8:30 - 12 & 1 - 4

Thursday: 8:30 - 12 & 1 - 4

*Dr. Kelly in office from 1-4

Friday: 8 - 12 & 1 - 4

**with Dr. Kelly in office

for provider appts.

Closed Sat./Sun.

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06052023

ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD--Whoopi Goldberg has said for some time that she'd never do another "Sister Act" because so many of the original actresses who played nuns have passed away. In 2013, she explained, "It just wouldn't feel right for me. I'm kind of old for it now ... that's not to say I wouldn't do it, but it feels like there's a new generation for 'Sister Act' and so maybe I can be a nun now." But, thanks to Tyler Perry, who'll produce and direct the next film, "Sister Act" will live again with Goldberg starring. Maybe his most famous character, Madea, can get into the sister act!



Goldberg

Forget about James Bond ... talks are afoot for Eddie Murphy to take on Peter Sellers' classic Inspector Clouseau in a reboot of "The Pink Panther," to be directed by "Sonic the Hedgehog" filmmaker Jeff Fowler.

Nov. 22, 1963 is a day many of us remember because of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Many films have been made about that day -- "Executive Action" (1973), "JFK" (1991), "The Secret KGB JFK Assassination Files" (1999), "Killing Kennedy" (2013), "Parkland" (2013) and "I Killed JFK" (2014), to name a few. In 2021, Oliver Stone's documentary, "JFK Revisited: Through the Looking Glass," disputed the Warren Commission's finding that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole shooter. Now, get ready for the latest take on it.

It's a thriller called "Assassination," starring Al Pacino, Viggo Mortensen, John Travolta, Shia LaBeouf and Courtney Love. The film's being directed by Pulitzer-Prize-winning playwright David Mamet from a script he co-wrote with Nicholas Celozzi. But here's the twist -- the film's being told from the point of view of the mob, reimagining JFK's death as a hit ordered

by Chicago mob boss Sam Giancana as payback for JFK's attempt to undermine the mob after they helped get him elected. It starts shooting in Vancouver in September.

It'll take all the tricks in Mamet's literary bag to pull this off, since the most popular theory is that JFK thought Marilyn Monroe had been murdered by the CIA as their way of putting a lid on their affair. To keep JFK from cutting their funding, they set up Oswald (who was a secret agent for them) to take the fall. In the book "Marilyn Monroe: A Case for Murder" by Jay Margolis, he had documentation that showed a CIA agent in the car behind JFK hearing the shot and drawing his gun; the car then jerked, and his gun fired. He was a second shooter, but it wasn't revealed until after his death 50 years later (how convenient). All witnesses, over 100 of them, died within a year of JFK's death. But, now, we will get to see how the mob might have handled the "hit."

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Couch Theater

"Avatar: The Way of Water" (PG-13) -- James Cameron's latest blockbuster reaches Disney's streaming service on June 7, after bringing home \$2.3 billion at the box office. As the sequel to Cameron's 2009 film, "The Way of Water" takes place 16 years after Jake Sully (Sam Worthington) became part of the Na'vi, where he is now the chief and raises a family alongside his mate, Neytiri (Zoe Saldana). But the Resources Development Administration is as determined as ever to colonize Pandora, so Jake and his family are forced to move away from their home toward the reef people, where they learn the way of water. If you thought the first film was visually appealing, the special effects of the second film will blow your mind. (Disney+)

"The Idol" (TV-MA) -- "Euphoria" creator Sam Levinson continues to push the envelope when it comes to his shows. "The Idol," his latest project, focuses on pop star Jocelyn (Lily-Rose Depp) following a nervous breakdown that put her career

on halt. Jocelyn meets modern-day cult leader Tedros (Abel Tesfaye), who ignites the fire inside her to get her career pumping again. This project, however, hasn't had the smoothest start. After the original director, Amy Seimetz, exited the show, Levinson took over and implemented Tesfaye's critiques that the show was "leaning too much into a female perspective." Following its premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, critics have called the show perverse, toxic and regressive. The first episode is out now on streaming for you to decide for yourself. (Max)

"Shooting Stars" (PG-13) -- Based on the 2009 book about LeBron James' beginnings in basketball, this film centers on James and three of his best friends who've been playing basketball together since they were kids. Even though the boys play for their own reasons, the love of the game and the love for their "Fab Four" unite them. So, when their coach threatens to separate them, they collectively decide to switch to

a Catholic school to remain together. But this transfer comes with great obstacles that could tear the Fab Four apart on their way to securing a championship for their new school. "Stranger Things" star Caleb McLaughlin stars in this sports biopic out now. (Peacock)

"Flamin' Hot" (PG-13) -- Eva Longoria makes her feature film directorial debut with quite the savory tale -- the origin story of a cherished snack called Flamin' Hot Cheetos. Richard Montanez gets a new job as a Frito-Lay janitor, but he quickly learns that his factory could close because Frito-Lay isn't producing enough orders. Then, one day, an idea comes to him. What Frito-Lay needed was a spicy chip, a snack that the underrecognized Hispanic population could really enjoy. The rest is finger-lickin' history. Jesse Garcia, Dennis Haysbert, Tony Shalhoub and Matt Walsh star in this biographical comedy-drama out on June 9. (Hulu)

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Where have I seen the actress who stars in the HBO series "Somebody Somewhere"? Was she a stand-up comedian? -- J.J.

A: The acclaimed series "Somebody Somewhere" recently concluded its second season, with Bridget Everett as the star of her semi-autobiographical series. You might recognize her as a stand-up comedian, most notably doing her routine on comedy specials as well as the series "Inside Amy Schumer."

Everett previously attended Arizona State University on a full scholarship to study music and opera. She got a standing ovation when she performed the song "Piece of My Heart" on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" and later incorporated a performance of the same song on "Somebody Somewhere."

Prior to landing a starring role in her own series, she guest-starred on shows like "2 Broke Girls" and "AJ and the Queen," and she also had



Everett

a dramatic role as a foster mom in the Netflix miniseries "Unbelievable."

You can watch the first two seasons of the heartwarming dramedy "Somebody Somewhere" on the recently renamed streaming service Max (formerly HBO Max).

Q: I've gotten really hooked on "The Night Agent" on Netflix. There's a character on the show named Diane Farr. I could have sworn there is also an actress with that same name. Am I mistaken? -- D.E.

A: While Oscar-nominated actress Hong Chau ("The Whale") plays a fictional character named Diane Farr in the Netflix series "The Night Agent," there is indeed an actress with that same name. The actress Diane Farr currently stars on another hit show -- "Fire Country" -- and previously played an FBI agent on "Numb3rs."

"The Night Agent" began as a novel by Matthew Quirk. The author originally named Chau's future character Diane Carruthers, but changed it to the shorter surname of Farr before publication. He told TVLine that he never heard of the actress Diane

Farr when he penned the book, but now that he's aware of her, he said, "I recognize her from many shows I've seen -- and she's great!"

Interestingly, according to Shawn Ryan, showrunner of "The Night Agent," Farr actually auditioned for the role that bears her name, but didn't get the part. "It's tough to tell Diane Farr she can't play Diane Farr," Ryan added.

"The Night Agent" has been a big hit for Netflix, earning a renewal for a second season not long after its premiere.

Q: When is "Stranger Things" returning with its final season? I've read conflicting information. -- L.S.

A: According to "Variety" magazine, the supernatural hit Netflix series "Stranger Things" has halted production of its fifth and final season due to the writer's strike. Even if all the episodes' scripts are written for a show, writing doesn't stop once filming begins. Therefore, since the WGA (Writers Guild of America) strike is still in progress, showrunners Ross and Matt Duffer have ceased filming until negotiations reach a satisfying conclusion.

• Trivia Test •

1. MOVIES: Which actor voiced the character of Darth Vader in the first three "Star Wars" movies released?
 2. TELEVISION: Which was the first TV show to react to the 9/11 attack on the United States?
 3. LITERATURE: Who is the youngest person to win the Nobel Prize for literature?
 4. HISTORY: Which city did Anne Frank and her family live in hiding before they were discovered?
 5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the tallest breed of dog?
 6. FOOD & DRINK: What is considered the national dish of Spain?
 7. GEOGRAPHY: Which is the only city that also is the smallest country in the world?
 8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which holiday is considered the Jewish New Year?
 9. ANATOMY: What are the bones in the fingers called?
 10. ASTRONOMY: How many primary phases of the moon exist?
- Answers
1. James Earl Jones.
 2. "The West Wing."
 3. Rudyard Kipling.
 4. Amsterdam.
 5. Great Dane.
 6. Paella.
 7. Vatican City.
 8. Rosh Hashanah.
 9. Phalanges.
 10. Four.
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Cave flier
- 4 Beanies
- 8 Experts
- 12 Punk rock offshoot
- 13 Classic theaters
- 14 Global septet
- 15 Ages and ages
- 16 When bar drinks are discounted
- 18 First-rate, in slang
- 20 Perched
- 21 Apothecary measure
- 24 Of the Arctic
- 28 Annual celebration for a saint
- 32 Forbidden act
- 33 Freedom, for short
- 34 First half of an LP
- 36 Pol. party org.
- 37 Raw materials
- 39 Magazine founded in 1933
- 41 Costume
- 43 Admin. aide
- 44 Composer
- 46 Grammarian's concern
- 50 Freshman
- 55 Pen name
- 56 Garfield's pal
- 57 North Sea feeder
- 58 "This tastes awful!"
- 59 Engrossed
- 60 Conked out
- 61 Uncle (Sp.)
- 8 Actor Kutcher
- 9 Corp. boss
- 10 Vichy water
- 11 Old map letters
- 17 Chatter
- 19 Rx writers
- 22 Tennis score
- 23 Tyler Perry persona
- 25 Mine find
- 26 Diarist Frank
- 27 Boulder
- 28 Promote aggressively
- 29 Hibernia
- 30 Help a hood
- 31 Evergreen trees
- 35 Promised
- 38 Twilight time
- 40 Scale amts.
- 42 Favorite
- 45 Turned blue?
- 47 Border on
- 48 Leslie Caron role
- 49 Repeat
- 50 Supporting
- 51 Lupino of film
- 52 Wardrobe malfunction
- 53 Peyton's brother
- 54 Actor Vigoda

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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FIRST STATE BANK

Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* The "Guinness World Records" holds the world record for being the most stolen book from public libraries.

* Some New York City taxis are actually undercover cop cars.

* Nintendo was sued and found guilty because kids were getting blisters from playing too much Mario Party.

* A cow named Cincinnati Freedom lived up to her name when she evaded police officers for 11 days after jumping a 6-foot fence to escape a slaughterhouse. Once caught, she was given the key to the city by Cincinnati's mayor and allowed to peacefully live out her remaining days in a New York sanctuary.

* Before he became the axman for Guns N' Roses, Slash auditioned for the band Poison but decided not to join when he was asked about wearing makeup.

* Persian King Agha Mohammad Khan ordered the execution of two servants for being too loud. Since it was a holy day, he postponed the event for 24 hours and made the servants return to their duties. It turned out to be an unfortunate decision, as they murdered the ruler in his sleep that very night.

* When George Washington died, Napoleon Bonaparte gave a personal eulogy and ordered a 10-day mourning period for France.

* By 1930, doping had become so prevalent and even accepted in the Tour de France that its organizers felt compelled to inform cyclists in the official rulebook that drugs would not be provided.

* Onions are the only commodity banned from futures trading in America.

* The man for whom Mount Everest was named, George Everest, didn't want the honor, pointing out that his name was difficult to write or pronounce in Hindi and that all previous Himalayan peaks were officially given indigenous names.

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King Crossword

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

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

Happy 21st Birthday Michelle!

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+

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LOCAL AND AREA



Rosie Rocha, left, and Keina Arteaga, both of Mendota, will study abroad this summer through a program offered at IVCC. They are 2021 graduates of Mendota High School. (Photo contributed)

Mendotans among IVCC students studying abroad

OGLESBY — Illinois Valley Community College has five students who are studying abroad in Spain and Austria this summer. IVCC Professor and Coordinator of Study Abroad Amanda Cook Fesperman has worked diligently to increase both interest and numbers.

Nursing student Paola Martinez is traveling to Seville, Spain residing with four other roommates. Fluent in Spanish, Martinez said, “I’m excited to learn more about the language and the culture of Spain. When I graduate from IVCC I would like to become a traveling nurse. This opportunity will help to strengthen my Spanish and allow me to communicate and translate better for native speakers.”

With a \$500 scholarship from the Illinois Consortium of International Studies and Programs for the trip, Martinez will also travel to Cordoba and Morocco.

Keina Arteaga and Rosie Rocha, both elementary education majors from Mendota, plan on traveling together to Seville, Spain staying with a host family for four weeks. They will also travel to Cordoba and spend a night in Morocco to experience the culture in northern Africa. Both students expressed the importance of understanding the background of their future students hoping this trip will broaden their understanding.

Arteaga and Rocha are the recipients of the highly competitive U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program for a limited number of students receiving the Federal Pell Grant. This scholarship was named after the late congressman Benjamin A. Gilman from New York. With

his support, the program was established by the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000 to foster mutual understanding between students in the United States and students in other countries to promote positive relations. The Institute of International Education has administered the program since its inception in 2001.

IVCC adult student Lynn Keyt is spending two weeks in Salzburg, Austria studying German culture and music appreciation. Keyt plans on getting out to explore and absorb the culture. “I am very excited for the experience. I think the opportunity for exposure to other parts of the world is an important part of learning. As a business major being able to see how other cultures manage their marketing and customer relations operations will give me greater insight into international marketing,” said Keyt.

Social science major Riker Fesperman, the fifth IVCC student participant, is heading overseas to Salzburg, Austria for over two weeks to study German, Austrian culture, and history. Fesperman is excited to immerse himself in the German language. “I love traveling and being abroad; they are wonderful experiences,” said Fesperman.

“Our study abroad programs are very affordable. Students can spend up to five weeks in the summer earning college credit in Austria, Costa Rica, England, France, Ireland, or Spain for about the same cost as a one-week vacation,” stated Cook Fesperman. Students may also travel to other destinations including Italy, South Korea and Africa.

For information about studying abroad, contact Cook Fesperman at 815-224-0203.



Memorial patio/seating area at Lake Mendota

A new seating area with a paver patio, four Adirondack chairs and a butterfly sculpture two-seat bench has been added to the north side of Lake Mendota. The patio/seating area was installed by the Jose DeLao family in memory of Lyndsey and Isabelle DeLao. (Reporter photo)

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Saturday, June 10th
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THE BACK PAGE

GARAGE SALES/NOTICES

3-FAMILY GARAGE SALE
1304 Hawthorne Court, Mendota
Friday, June 9
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, June 10
8 a.m.-noon
Furniture, clothes, Tools, home décor, Miscellaneous.
1t23msr

MULTI-FAMILY
1002 26th St., Peru
June 8-10
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Household items, designer purses, golf club, pack n play.
1t23msr

GARAGE SALE
First United Methodist Church of Mendota at the corner of First Ave. & Sixth St.
Friday, June 16
9 a.m.-3 p.m.
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2t23msr

Here we go again.
LILLIA'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE
1303 Hawthorne Court
Friday, June 9
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, June 10
8 a.m.-?
Something for everyone. Everything priced to sell.
1t23msr

GARAGE SALE
10 years in the making.
1713 Char Lu Drive, Mendota
Friday, June 9
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, June 10
8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Furniture, area rugs, silk flower arrangements, home décor, garden supplies, wrought iron plant stands, lamps, compass collection, hand & power tools, Disney wallets/wristlets, Christmas items, and much more.
1t23msr

GARAGE SALE
2013 Pine Ave.
Thursday, June 8
3-7 p.m.
Friday, June 9
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Women's clothes & shoes, baby/toddler summer girls' clothes, kids' toys & books, teacher supplies, home & holiday décor, & much more.
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Mendota City Ordinance

Grass clippings, etc. in streets
No person shall throw, place or leave, or cause or permit to be thrown, placed or left, any ashes, dirt, filth or rubbish, grass clippings, or foreign matter in or upon any street, alley or sidewalk of the City of Mendota.
Penalty: Any person violating this section shall be subject to the penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500. Imposition of any penalty for a violation of this section shall not be construed as a waiver of the right of the City to collect the cost of removal of such nuisance where it is necessary for the City to remove such nuisance.

Mendota City Ordinance

Public Nuisances
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.

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POLICE BLOTTER

WARRANT ARREST
Keith A. Milus, 38, of 602 10th Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 5:50 p.m. May 31 on a valid LaSalle County warrant for violation of an order of protection. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED
Bryant Austin, 36, of Montgomery, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Monroe Street and Illinois Avenue at 2:40 p.m. June 1. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED
Fazon Newson, 27, of Chicago, was charged with

driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Monroe Street and Illinois Avenue at 3 p.m. June 1. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST
Eduardo Patino, 26, of 1009 Sixth Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 4:23 p.m. June 1 on a valid Lee County warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court after a traffic stop at 10th Street and Fifth Avenue. The subject posted bond and was released with a Lee County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED
Dominique L. Washington, 26, of 202 Cherry St., Apt. B4, Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at First Avenue

and Cherry Street at 1:30 a.m. June 3. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE
Careil R. Beasley, 25, of Cape Coral, Fla., was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at Meriden Street and Illinois Avenue at 5:48 p.m. June 4. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

THEFT
John R. Ness, 59, of 904 Illinois Ave., Apt. 1, Mendota, was charged with theft after police officers were called to the 1200 block of Jefferson Street at 5:10 p.m. June 5 in regard to the report of a theft. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

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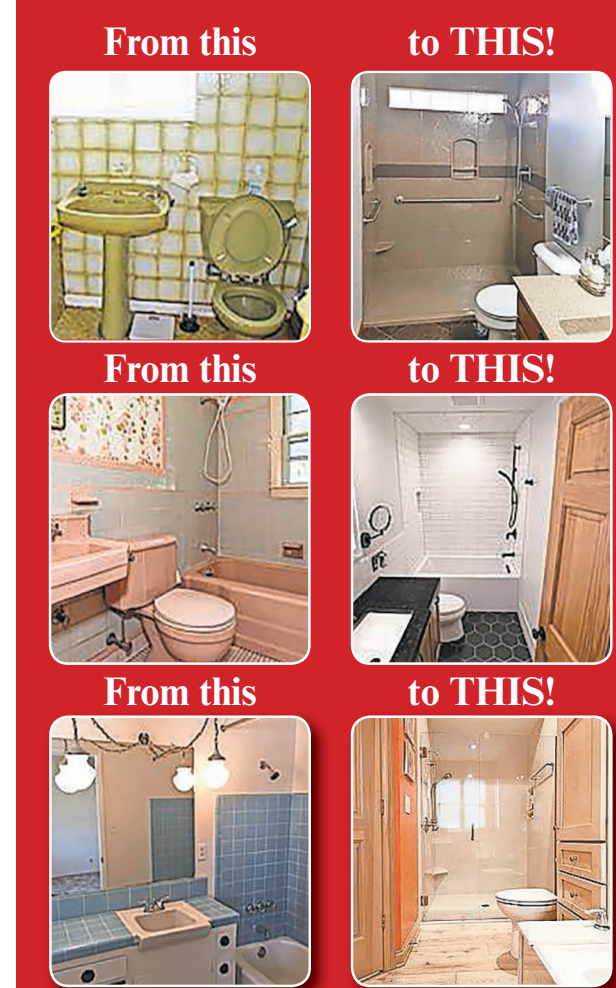
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Little 10 picks top softball players for 2023 season

(** Denotes a unanimous selection)

(**Denotes a unanimity conclusion)



This is the 12th year in support of raising money for ALS research. Contact Brad Monier, co-race director, to request an entry form or link to online registration/donation page at 815-303-9346 or email walnutkals@gmail.com. This race costs approximately \$400 per participant.

Registration forms are available at Mendota High School and will also be sent home with all boys in third through eighth grades. The registration form with payment should be returned to Mendota Boys Basketball, 2300 W. Main St., Mendota, IL 61342.

Information is posted on the Mississippi Centers' website under events. Visit www.mississippi.org then click on events.

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SPORTS

IDNR, Illinois Conservation Police urge life jacket use, sober boating

SPRINGFIELD – With the start of the summer boating season now underway, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Conservation Police are reminding people to wear life jackets anytime they’re on the water and to only operate boats while sober.

“Life jackets save lives, period,” said Illinois Conservation Police Lt. Curt Lewis, the state’s boating law administrator. “Everyone who heads out on the water should wear a life jacket, regardless of whether they’re on a motorboat, a kayak, a canoe, or a stand-up paddleboard. We want you to have fun, but most importantly, we want you to be safe.”

In 2022, there were 52 re-

portable boating accidents on Illinois waters, resulting in six fatalities and 40 injuries, according to statistics compiled by the Illinois Conservation Police. Prior years’ statistics:

- 2021: 93 boating accidents with 16 fatalities and 28 injuries

- 2020: 81 boating accidents with 21 fatalities and 36 injuries

- 2019: 72 boating accidents with 14 fatalities and 42 injuries

Annual boating accident statistics are compiled based on the federal fiscal year Oct. 1 through Sept. 30.

Statistics show most boating accidents occur between noon and 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays between June and August. Conditions are usually

clear with good visibility, light winds, and calm water. Most accidents involve operators between the ages of 20 and 40 who have more than 100 hours of boating experience but little or no classroom boating safety instruction. They also usually involve open motorboats cruising in a careless or reckless manner, culminating in a collision with another boat.

IDNR offers free boating safety courses that provide a review of boating laws and regulations, as well as instruction on the safe and attentive operation of watercraft. The department encourages boaters of all ages to take a safety course. Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1998, must pass a course

and have a valid Boating Safety Certificate to operate a motorboat (with over 10 horsepower). State law also requires boating safety education for people ages 12 to 17 to operate a motorboat.

“With boating season getting underway, everyone who heads out to enjoy the beautiful lakes and waterways Illinois has to offer should make safety their first priority,” said Cody Gray, safety education program administrator for IDNR. “IDNR’s mandatory boating safety classes are free, and what you learn may just save someone’s life.”

Free safety courses are taught by volunteer instructors and are available throughout Illinois. Find a schedule of courses at

<https://dnr.illinois.gov/safety/boatingsafety.html>. For a fee, online boating safety courses are also available.

As part of the Illinois Conservation Police boating safety enforcement effort, officers also strictly enforce laws regarding operating under the influence (OUI) for boat operators.

Operating a boat under the influence is in some ways riskier than operating a motor vehicle under the influence, Lewis said. On waterways, there are no lane markers, boats have no seatbelts, and there is little protection for occupants should a collision occur.

In 2022, Illinois Conservation Police officers arrested 72 boaters for OUI, a 10% increase from the

previous year. In 2021 they arrested 65 boaters for OUI.

None of the six boating-related fatalities in Illinois in 2022 involved alcohol or drug impairment. Of the six fatalities, four who died were not wearing life jackets or vests.

Lewis stressed that wearing a life jacket is the most important action boaters and paddlers can take to ensure their safety and the of others on board.

Illinois law requires that personal flotation devices, or PFDs – which are life jackets or life vests – be available for each person aboard a boat or other watercraft. The law also requires Illinois law requires everyone to wear a PFD while operating a personal watercraft or jet ski.



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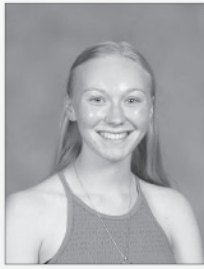
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LOCAL AND AREA

The ultimate key to peaceful relationships

Relationships are an important part of life. Healthy relationships have the ability to bring us great joy and satisfaction; however, unhealthy ones have the power to make life miserable!

Throughout my life, God’s Word has taught me so many great lessons about how to get along with people—something I wasn’t very good at. But I think the greatest lesson was this: Choose to live in peace with others.

Simply put, it’s God’s will for us to live in peace and harmony with one another, and His Word offers clear instructions on how to get along with people in our daily lives.

First Peter 3:11 (AMPC) says, “Let him search for peace (harmony; undisturbedness from fears, agitating passions, and moral conflicts) and seek it eagerly. [Do not merely desire peaceful relations with God, with your fellowmen, and with yourself, but pursue, go after them!]”

Notice how this verse says we can’t merely desire peaceful relationships—we have to pursue them. Now, this doesn’t mean we won’t ever disagree. People are naturally going to have disagreements, and it’s okay to disagree if we can do it respectfully. But we must avoid strife!

The dictionary defines strife as “bickering, arguing, a heated disagreement, or an angry undercurrent.” Strife is one of the greatest threats to the body of Christ; it has the ability to destroy marriages, personal relationships and even churches. Like a seed, strife can get planted through something we say or do, then eventually grow to become a major problem.

God’s Word tells us that it’s the “little foxes” that sneak into the vineyard and spoil all the grapes (Song of Solomon 2:15). I believe this is true when it comes to strife. Left unchecked, even minor disagreements or frustrations can eventually destroy a relationship.

So, how do we keep strife out of our relationships? Here are a couple practical tips:

Maintain a Humble Heart

Where there is contention and strife, there is also pride. That’s why it is so important for us to practice humility. We all like to be right—whether it’s an argument about a major issue or something trivial. However, humility insists that we give up our “right to be right.”

I can’t tell you how many times my husband, Dave, and I went round after round, arguing about the same thing. But even when I “won,” I still really lost, because I damaged our relationship and gave up my peace in the process.

I challenge you to adopt



an attitude of humility. If you’re having an argument, be the first to make peace or apologize...even if you know you are right! It may be painful in the moment, but you will reap the rewards long after it’s all over.

Let Love Be Your Guide

Strife isn’t just a 21st century problem. In fact, the apostle Paul wrote to the early Church, encouraging them to avoid strife and stay away from petty arguments.

In Philippians 2:2 (AMPC), he writes, “Fill up and complete my joy by living in harmony and being of the same mind and one in purpose, having the same love, being in full accord and of one harmonious mind and intention.”

Where there is unity, God gives His blessing (Psalm 133). And Matthew 18:19 tells us there is power in agreement. However, we can’t truly agree and walk in unity if there is bitterness, offense, or unforgiveness in our hearts.

I can put a big smile on my face and say all the right things, but if I’m still choosing to focus on negative thoughts and feelings about someone, I’m not really walking in love or unity. It’s not just

my outward appearance that matters—even more important is what’s going on inside.

First Corinthians 13:5 (AMPC) tells us that love “is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it.” Verse 7 goes on to tell us that love believes the best of every person.

Can you imagine what would happen in our relationships if we simply followed these two verses?

I encourage you to truly love the people in your life. Make a decision to be peaceful and unified no matter what tries to get between you and others. And remember that “love never fails” (1 Corinthians 13:8).

Seek the Prince of Peace

The very best relationship advice I can give you is to develop a personal, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. I encourage you to spend regular time with Him through prayer and by reading and studying His Word.

As you do, He will literally change you from the inside out, causing you to think differently and act differently. It is only when we receive His peace and His love that we can truly give it away to others!

I am so grateful for the peace of God in my life. The Lord has not only changed my relationships, but He has changed me. And He will do the same for you. It all begins with a simple decision to pursue peace.

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s three-part teaching resource Recognizing and Dealing with Strife. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

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

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

Real News



From Hometown Heroes to Golden Anniversaries, we celebrate the events that shape our lives.

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

Real Events



REAL PAPER • REAL INK • REAL NEWS
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The Invention of the Year

The world’s lightest and most portable mobility device

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

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

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

—Kent C., California

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



Available in Green, Black and Blue (shown)



The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches.

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

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Ray Fischer, Jose Lopez,
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Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

9 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship
9:30 a.m. Worship

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

June 11 - 9 a.m. Coffee Fellowship in
Welker Hall; 9:30 a.m. Worship

ZION UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.
.....

Pastor Jeff Brace
jbrace8459@gmail.com

Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United
Methodist Church

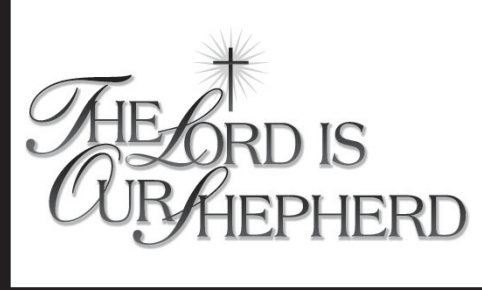
SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

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

TUESDAY - Prayer group 6 p.m.

FRIDAY - Youth group 6 p.m.



If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

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

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CHURCH

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(815) 539-6861
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Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor

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www.mendotaupc.org

SUNDAY: Christian Education
Sunday Worship

WEDNESDAY

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Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY

Sunday school
Worship

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service

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P.O. Box 54

Phone (815) 539-7107 (church)
(815) 871-5702 (pastor)
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Larry Sheaves, Pastor

www.newcovenantmendota.org
www.facebook.com/NCAOG

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Brian Kelly, Pastor

www.mendotabiblechurch.org

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Sunday School
Worship
Evening Service

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CHURCH

607 Tenth Ave.
(815) 539-5626
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Vicar Anthony Windau

E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

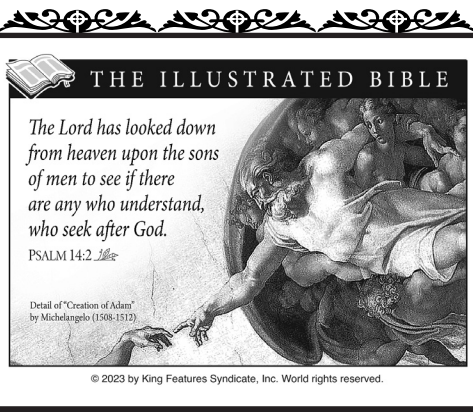
Website:
www.stjohnsmendota.org

Schedule:

9 a.m. Sunday Worship in person
and online via YouTube

Find us on Facebook

NOTE: Please contact your individual church regarding online services or for other church-related information.



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1003 5th St.
(815) 538-5603
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Website: fpcmendota.com

Accessible

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

June 8 - 6:30 p.m. Recital/Ice Cream
Social

June 11 - 9 a.m. Second Sunday
Breakfast; 10 a.m. Worship;
11 a.m. Fellowship

June 13 - 9 a.m. Presbytery, Rockford;
7 p.m. Session

Facebook page

www.facebook.com/fpcmendota

Wednesday Evening Gathering:

Live Zoom at 7 p.m.
https://us02web.zoom.
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might have the supremacy." Col. 1:18

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Dave Manion Jim McDowell
Wayne Shuman

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Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Church Builders 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 6 p.m.

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Ladies & Mens Bible Study

Thursday 6 p.m.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel
(Sunday School begins Dec. 4, 9:30)

10:30 a.m. Worship at First

June 11 - 8:30 a.m. Worship
with Holy Communion. Pancake
breakfast following worship and a
kickball game. Everyone welcome.

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



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Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Accessible

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Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

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Pastor Brian Hamiel
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and raising of His name.
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our risen Savior."

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9 a.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. Which prophet was trapped at a wall by an angel with drawn sword? Daniel, Balaam, Jeremiah, Nathan

3. In Proverbs 21:17, he that loveth wine and oil shall not be ...? Pure, Blamed, Liked, Rich

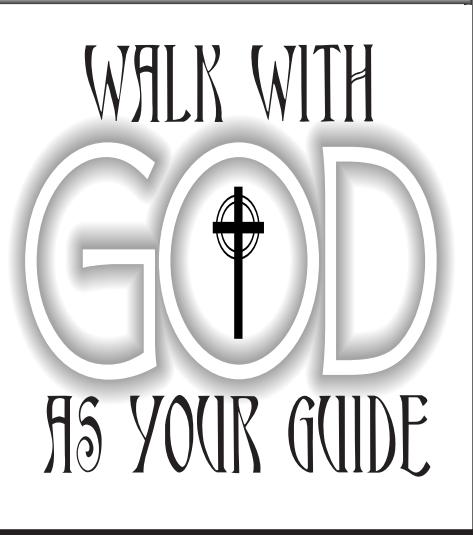
4. From Genesis 37:3, who had a coat of many colors? Abraham, Goliath, Adam, Joseph

5. Which Hebrew woman became Queen of Persia? Sarah, Esther, Deborah, Ruth

6. From Judges 10:2, how many years did Tola judge Israel? 1, 7, 23, 110

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Balaam, 3) Rich, 4) Joseph, 5) Esther, 6) 23

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on May 19, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as AML Used Auto located at 201 Iowa Avenue Unit D, Streator, IL. 61364.
Dated: May 19, 2023.
Michael W. Beng Applicant.
No. 0513
(May 24, 31 and June 7, 2023)

NOTICE
Public notice TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE MENDOTA TROY GROVE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the MENDOTA TROY GROVE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT for LaSalle and Bureau County, Illinois for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024 has been prepared and the public notice has been posted in 5 places within the said Fire District, and also printed in the Mendota Reporter. YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that a public hearing shall be held as to such Budget and Appropriation Ordinance at the Mendota Fire Department, Mendota, Illinois on July 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Mendota Troy Grove Rural Fire Protection District. No. 0601
(June 7, 2023)

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

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2021 Chevy 1500 Crew, Highcountry, Diesel, 4x4, 25K Miles, Black.....	\$56,900	2019 Chevy Blazer RS AWD, Loaded, 33K Miles, White,	\$39,900
2020 Chevy Equinox FWD Premier, 24K Miles, Pearl White.....	\$28,900	2019 Chevy K-1500 Double Cab, LT, Leather, 57K Miles, White.....	\$34,900

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2019 GMC Sierra 1500, Crew Cab SLE, 4x4, Lifted, Topper, 78K Miles, White.....	\$38,900	2016 Chevy K-1500 Double Cab, 4x4, Z71, Gray, One Owner, 80K Miles.....	\$27,900
2019 Chevy K-1500 Crew, LT 4x4, 85K Miles, White.....	\$31,900	2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, Leather, 126K Miles, White.....	\$25,900
2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 99K Miles, Silver.....	\$28,900	2015 Chevy Impala LT, V-6, 88K miles, white	\$14,900
2018 Chevy Traverse, AWD, High Country, 99K Miles, White.....	\$27,900	2015 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab, LTZ, 4x4 Z71, 122K Miles, Gray.....	\$24,900
2018 Chevy Equinox FWD Premier, Loaded, Red, 92K Miles.....	\$18,900	2014 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT Z71, 4x4, 62K Miles, Red.....	\$25,900

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203 HELP WANTED

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305 GARAGE SALES

VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALE DAYS. Thursday, June 8th - Saturday, June 10th 8AM-5PM, but times will vary for each sale. Hillcrest & Windover Park. Over 20 garage sales. Each sale is clearly marked & has maps available. Nice community ready to sell their treasures. Lots of unique finds. Great Deals. (06-07-23)

GARAGE SALE - Antiques, Housewares, Honda Cycle Tank, Auto, Fishing Poles, Vintage Utility Cart and Much More. June 8, 9 and 10 8AM to 2PM. 1113 Burlington Way, Davis Junction. (06-07-23)

Garage Sale - 10102 Fowler Road, Rochelle. Friday, 6/9 8AM-4PM, Saturday, 6/10 8AM-2PM. Clothes (Kids, Womens & Mens), Toys, Bikes, Furniture, Home Goods, Tack Room Clean Out & Much More. (06-07-23)

ROCHELLE — 1010, 1033 & 1107 N. 3rd Street. Multi-Family Garage Sale. Thursday, June 8 — Saturday, June 10 8AM to 5PM. Clothing (girls NB-10, Boys 14-16, Womens, Mens Big & Tall), Baby Items, Housewares, Knick Knacks, Sound Bars, Bunkbed, Furniture, Outside Toys, Mountain Bike, Motorcycle, Yard Roller, Shopsmith with Accessories and More.

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

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GENERAL Electric Stacked Washer & Dryer. New, White, 220 Volt. \$860. Call or Text 630-270-7251. (06-14-23)

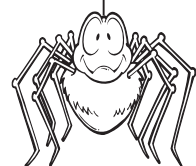
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121 LOST AND FOUND

Found:
Slim 3 ring binder with page inserts. Found on the block of 1800 Stroble Ave. in Mendota. Call 815-538-6652 and leave a message.

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203 HELP WANTED

Main Street Station is looking for a **part-time or full-time cook**. Some experience helpful. Apply in person at 714 Main Street, Mendota. Closed Sundays and Mondays.

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Mendota High School is accepting applications for a full time Assistant Maintenance Director.

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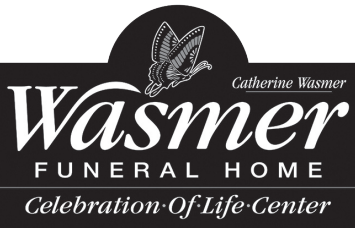
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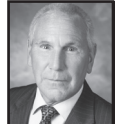
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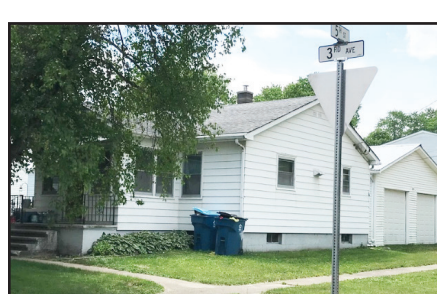
909 Greenridge Ave., Earlville
\$135,000

Loads of opportunity here!
Currently used as a sewing
center/consignment shop
(consigners would stay) Very
spacious with 2 half baths and a
kitchen. Call McConville Realty
for all the amenities.



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Diamond in the rough! Roll up your sleeves
and create your home! Great floor plan,
attached garage, large backyard, large deck-
needs some work, kitchen with lots of room
for a table! Main floor laundry too. Cash or
conventional



510 3rd Ave., Mendota

A RARE FIND!! One story living with a 2 plus
car Garage!!! Corner lot. Selling AS-IS. Cash
or conventional.



100 N. Peru St., Troy Grove

Beautiful property with 20x48 structure
ready to complete for your home! New
septic, 200 foot well, and 200 AMP service!



2 BUILDING LOTS

408 5th Ave., Mendota

\$18,000



15 Abballee Way., Mendota

\$25,000

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WITH LOVE...**



**... AND IT
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HOME!**

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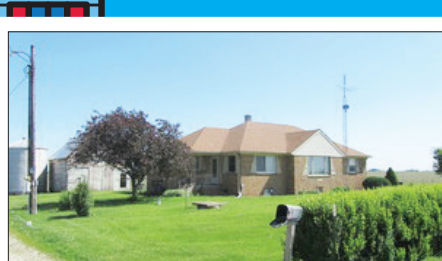


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10 N US Hwy 34, Mendota -
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Great Business Opportunity! Sip n
Snack has been in Business for 50
years! Awesome location with lots
of traffic and close to Mendota golf
course. So many opportunities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



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1419 N. 35th Rd., Ottawa

\$289,500

Nice 3 bedroom ranch in Wallace
School Dist. 1.5 Acres to be
surveyed off the farm. Detached
garage. 61x34 Machine shed
and misc. out buildings. Call
McConville Realty to set up a
showing. Notice needed.



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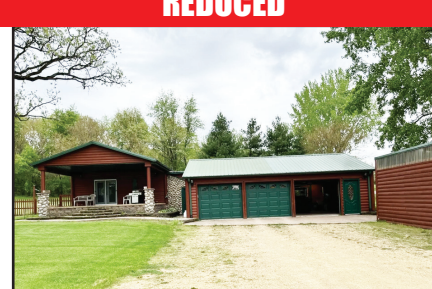
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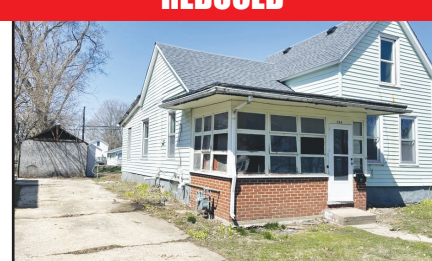
REDUCED



556 Dry Gulch Rd., Amboy -
\$329,500

Cozy well maintained home located
on 5.5 acres. A great place for horses.
This home features a spacious
living room area with fireplace, all
appliances stay in this beautiful
kitchen, fenced in backyard, and a 3
car attached garage.

REDUCED



136 N Mason Ave., Amboy
\$39,900

As soon as you enter this property, you'll feel the
warm and welcoming vibe. This one and half
story home has so much potential. Features 2
bedrooms, 1 bathroom and laundry room on
the main floor, all appliances, enclosed front
porch, and living area. The kitchen is spacious.
The home's location is also ideal, as it's close to
a variety of amenities, including stores, eateries,
and educational. Home is for sale AS IS . Call
today for a showing!