

Report suggests spending will soon begin outpacing revenues again in Illinois

□ State could face another bill backlog

By **JERRY NOWICKI**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – While Illinois has recently experienced a prolonged stretch of good financial news, a new state fiscal forecast notes that if spending continues to grow at its recent pace it could lead to future budget deficits.

It would mark the reversal of a recent trend during which the state logged considerable surpluses this fiscal year and the two years prior.

In the highest-spending scenario outlined in the three-year forecast from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, the state could once again face a bill backlog as high as \$18 billion. That estimate assumes spending growth at its five-year average of 7.1 percent.

“This example shows that spending patterns seen in the past few years cannot continue without a comparable increase in revenues, which is not seen in the commission’s current estimates,” the report from the legislature’s nonpartisan forecasting commission noted.

If the state keeps spending growth at 1.8 percent the most austere scenario

outlined by the commission – it could maintain an accounts payable balance of \$1.4 billion, the same as it was at the end of Fiscal Year 2022.

Even in that scenario, state spending would outpace revenues in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024 that begins July 1 – although Gov. JB Pritzker has proposed decreasing state spending in FY 24.

His \$49.6 billion proposed spending plan for FY 24 represents a 0.7 percent decrease from the baseline number assumed in the COGFA forecast. Lawmakers, however, are still working on crafting a final budget before their May 19 adjournment.

“We have to pass a balanced budget... Illinois has had a past where, you know, for a few years anyway, that didn’t happen,” Pritzker said. “And I think the General Assembly has taken that very seriously.”

While the new report illustrated that lawmakers may have to tighten their belts in the coming years, it remained consistent with previous projections by the commission and other forecasters that have suggested an economic slowdown is on the horizon.

See Spending, Page A5



Wild weather

As Mendota and surrounding locations were trying to recover from severe thunderstorms and tornadoes that hit the final day of March, another round of violent weather struck the area last week as large hail and then extremely high winds not associated with a storm moved over the region. On the morning of April 4, hail in the golf ball to tennis ball size range was reported on the south and east sides of Mendota. Then in the evening, a severe wind event overspread far northern LaSalle County and southern DeKalb County that was not accompanied by a thunderstorm. According to Matt Friedlein, the winds appeared to be due to mixing down of higher winds aloft with what is called a gravity wave, which emanated out of storms to the southwest of the area that helped mix down stronger winds. Trees were split or toppled in Mendota, including ones that fell on trailers at 111 S. 13th Ave. and another that pierced the roof of a house on Cherry Street. (Reporter photos)



Cinco de Mayo Fiesta set for May 5 in Mendota

MENDOTA – The IL Valley Hispanic Partnership Council (IVHPC) celebrates its annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta on Friday, May 5, from 5 to 9 p.m. at 1201 Main St., Mendota.

Cinco de Mayo is a yearly celebration held on May 5, which commemorates the anniversary of Mexico’s victory over the Second French Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. The IL Valley Hispanic Partnership Council celebrates Mexican-American culture through authentic Mexican food and traditional

folkloric dances, kids’ activities, agency information, pageant, mini-queen & king, music, raffles, prizes, and fun.

This is a great opportunity to connect and distribute information to the Hispanic community. Last year, IVHPC had a successful event with over 250 people attending and over 20 agencies, businesses, educational,

and political organizations from the Illinois Valley reserving booths. More popular in the United States than Mexico, Cinco de Mayo has become associated with the celebration of Mexican-American culture in the IL Valley.

To reserve a space, participate or donate, please contact Mario Espinoza at 815-830-2547 or by email at mario@ysbiv.org. All proceeds benefit future cultural events and fund scholarship opportunities.



Time for an update

□ 87-year old stained-glass windows repaired at St. John’s Lutheran Church

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – St. John’s Lutheran Church has been standing at 607 10th Ave. in Mendota since 1935.

In 1936, the Columbia Stained Glass Company based out of Milwaukee created the 111 stained-glass windows Mendota residents and visitors have viewed for the last 87 years.

Fast forward to 2023. It was time for the stained-glass windows to receive some tender loving care.

“We had the company, Willet Hauser Architectural Glass (based in Winona, Minn.), take a look at our windows when they were repairing the stained-glass windows at the First Presbyterian Church last summer,” said Vicar Anthony Windau, who came to St. John’s in January 2022 as an intern and was promoted to interim pastor when Fr. Ken Gibson retired in January 2023. “Our sanctuary was built in 1935.

The stained-glass windows are over 80 years old. This is the first time that major work has been done on them. You have to think, stained-glass windows are made of glass and lead, so they have to be updated just like any other set of windows.”

When Columbia painted and installed the windows in 1936, the price was \$1,485.

Willet Hauser quoted the repair for all of the windows at \$700,000.

The repair work requiring more timely attention was priced at \$100,000 and the immediate updates were set at \$60,000.

St. John’s took a year to process the information and decided to go with the immediate update to refresh old paint and replace broken glass of 57 of the 111 stained-glass windows.

“We haven’t reached the \$60,000 yet. We are over 50 percent of the way there. We are optimistic that we will raise the money,” said



Vicar Windau. “It’s difficult because we had a budget deficit last year, which isn’t surprising for churches, but it’s one of the reasons why we didn’t go with the initial \$100,000 quote.

“We didn’t know how we could faithfully run our church and ask for \$100,000 more. We had to meet in the middle.”

Mendota’s St. John’s Lu-



theran Church originated at a different location in 1858.

This year, St. John’s celebrates its 165th anniversary.

It seems like the perfect time to replenish its beauty, history, and meaning.

“It’s very important for us to get the windows repaired. Stained-glass win-

See Windows, Page A5



Vicar Anthony Windau points to stained-glass windows at St. John’s Lutheran Church, which has embarked on a \$60,000 stained-glass window repair project. (Reporter photos by Brandon LaChance)

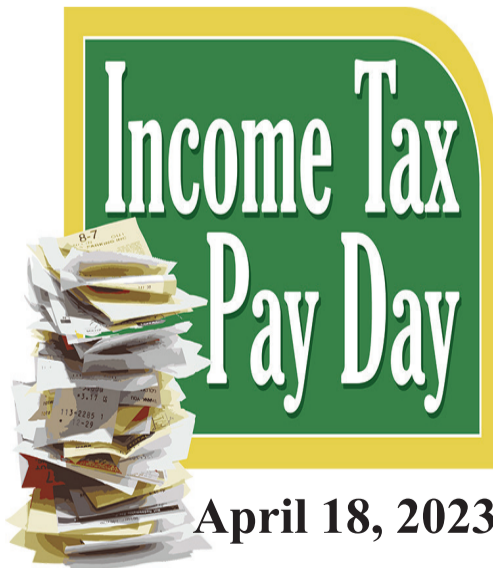


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LOCAL AND AREA

Two MHS organizations bond for blood drive

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

MENDOTA – The Interact Club and the National Honor Society are going to become one for one event.

The two Mendota High School organizations are combining to sponsor and help run the MHS Blood Drive from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, April 21 at the high school located at 2300 W. Main St.

“Since both the Interact Club and the National Honor Society are based on leadership and community, I think it’s a very good thing that they work together,” said MHS junior Roxana Ramirez, who has been part of the Interact Club since her sophomore year. “I like participating in the events where we go out and do things like help people and our environment.”

“I encourage others to get involved.”

The blood drive sponsored by the Interact Club and the National Honor Society will be ran by the American Red Cross.

The club and the society will help run the registration table and may donate blood, if they're older than 16-years old.

Students need to bring either a driver's license or two forms of other identification with one containing proof of age.

"I'm not scared. I'm curious. I think it will be a good thing," said Ramirez, who has never donated blood before but will on April 21. "On a scale of 1-10, I'm at an eight in terms of my excitement toward helping with the blood drive. I knew I'd donate blood eventually because I hear about it all of the time."

“I figured once I was old enough, I should take the opportunity and help out. I’m old enough now, so I want to

donate blood.”

The donating of blood has many great benefits, including helping one or more graduating seniors earn a scholarship.

And of course, having extra blood for transfusions and other medical needs are paramount.

"I think it is important to help people, especially if you're part of the Interact Club," said freshman Interact Club member, Ella Lewis. "It's important to benefit your community and the people around you. With what we've been taught in our classes, we just went over the blood unit in biology, it's very important that we help people and do that to the best of our ability."

Please contact Alisa Stewart, email astewart@mendotahs.org, for more information or to make an appointment to donate blood during the 9 a.m.-2 p.m. time slot on Friday, April 21.



Mendota takes to the lanes at 102nd Annual Elks National Bowling Tournament

The Mendota Elks Lodge was represented by 20 members at the 102nd Annual Elks National Bowling Tournament held by the Middleton Elks Lodge #1097 at Quinns Pinz in Middletown, NY. The Mendota bowlers rolled the lanes April 1-2, but different lodges from around the country will be competing in the tournament until May 6-7. Bowling for the Mendota Elks were, bottom row left to right, Tyler Schmitt, Joe Dimmig, and Nate Bradford, second row left to right, Debbie Berger, Connie Yost, Ashley Vickrey, Emily Thomas, and Raul Diaz, third row left to right, Drake O'Donnell, Tony Yost, Jessica Robinson (currently leads singles handicapped with a three-game score of 850), Bob Thomas, Jennifer Jackson, Dessalegn Collings, and Gail Sessler, fourth row left to right, Todd Smith, Tyler Hunt, Justin Carr, Matt Furar, and Luke Phalen. (Photo contributed)

First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln: Mrs. Lincoln's Salon

MENDOTA—Debra Miller visits the Graves-Hume Public Library again, this time as Mary Todd Lincoln. Drawing from the letters of Mrs. Lincoln, she will reminisce about her childhood, her days in Springfield, and her children as she celebrates Tad's 12th birthday, and the end of the Civil War.

Debra Miller is a professional actress, vocalist, and voice-over talent with over 30 years of experience as a performer for live audiences, television, and film.

Join us at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15 at for this program.

This event is co-sponsored with the Rotary Club of Mendota. Library programs are open to all. No library card required.

Brian Rose takes look at journalism on TV over the last seven decades

LaSALLE – LaSalle Public Library welcomes back Brian Rose, Professor Emeritus at Fordham University, on Tuesday, April 18 at 6 p.m., for a presentation that looks at the sweeping changes, and examines the impact, both good and bad, of television journalism over the last seven decades.

Television news has undergone remarkable transformations in the last seven decades. Beginning with the Camel News Caravan with John Cameron Swayze in 1948, evening newscasts drew tens of millions of viewers nightly and expanded from 15 minutes to 30 minutes when Walter Cronkite became the anchor of the CBS Evening News in 1963. With the launch of CNN in 1980, TV news expanded to 24 hours a day, seven days a week – and a new era in television journalism was born. Americans no longer had to wait until 6:30 p.m. to get their news but could tune in any time to find out what was happening, all over the world. In 1996, TV news would change once again with the launch of two new 24/7 cable channels: MSNBC and six months later the Fox News Channel, which introduced a more partisan approach to news coverage that would have enormous implications on American political life.

This program is free and open to the public. It will be presented via Zoom. Register – <https://bit.ly/3nkevdy>

For more information, please call the Library at 815-223-2341.

Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

We had a great last day before spring break! The students got a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny. They also got to enjoy an egg hunt outside around the school in the afternoon filled with prizes. Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to help with that fun event. The students had so much fun!

Don't forget that spring break for District #289 is April 7-16. Students and staff will return on Monday, April 17. We hope everyone has a wonderful Easter and enjoys some time off.

The students nominated for the principal award this past week included Ellie Krisch, Aria Knowlton, Sharon Videz, Jonathan Morato, Bryson Sondgeroth, Kimber Escatel, Emiliano Moreno and Lauren Wujek. The winners were Waylon Brewer, Merakim Riniker, Ellie Sester and Abel Gonzalez. Congratulations to all of you!

□□□

Kindergarten registration for the 2023-

2024 school year is coming up. Students who register must reside in Mendota School District #289. To be eligible to enter Kindergarten in August 2023, a child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2023. If you have questions about your child's age/readiness to start kindergarten, please contact the school.

The first step is for parents to come to Blackstone to pick up registration information. Parents will be able to drive through the North parking lot on Jefferson Street and staff will bring a registration folder out to your car. We will do this on Wednesday, April 19 from 3:30-6:00; Thursday, April 20 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and on Tuesday, April 25 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. It is extremely important that all parents who will register a child for Fall 2023 Kindergarten pick up registration information. Please check out the district Facebook page or webpage for more detailed information or you can call the school office at 539-6888.

Registration information for current students in the district in grades K-7th grade will come home with students after spring break.

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LOCAL AND AREA

General W.H.L. Wallace subject of Ottawa Lecture Series' fourth lecture

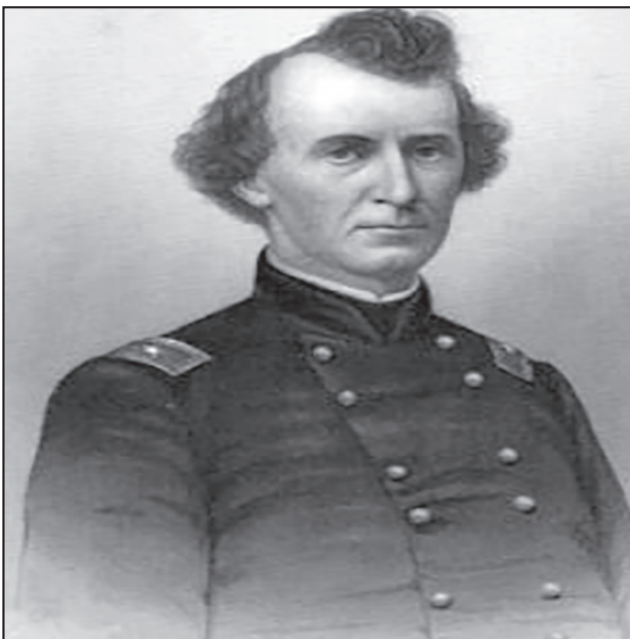
OTTAWA—In early April of 1862, the Union Army of the Tennessee under the command of General Ulysses S. Grant and the Confederate Army of the Mississippi commanded by General Albert Sidney Johnston clashed in one of the fiercest battles of the American Civil War in southwestern Tennessee near a small church called Shiloh.

It is the story of one of Grant's division commanders Brigadier General WHL Wallace of Ottawa that Dan Schott will be presenting in the fourth lecture of the Ottawa Lecture Series at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at the Ottawa History and Scouting Heritage Museum located at 1100 Canal Street.

Schott is the "Commander" of the Starved Rock Civil War Round Table.

Admission is \$5 for the public or \$4 for museum members.

Since seating is very limited, reservations must be made by visiting the museum in person between 10 a.m.-4p.m.



Thursday through Sunday or by calling 815-431-9353.

Those patrons who have prepaid for the entire lecture series are asked to contact the museum to confirm attendance.

All proceeds of the lecture series go to the Ottawa Historical and Scouting Heritage

Museum's efforts to raise funds for a building addition.

The fifth lecture will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at the museum. Mollie Perrott, Executive Director of the Ottawa History and Scouting Heritage Museum, will be sharing the story of the events of the 1898 Ottawa Street Fair.

Old state capital historic site to undergo renovation

SPRINGFIELD—The Old State Capitol State Historic Site in Springfield is receiving long overdue attention thanks to a \$15.1 million preservation investment made possible by Governor JB Pritzker's bipartisan Rebuild Illinois capital plan.

Years of deferred maintenance are being addressed both inside and outside of the historic site in the heart of downtown Springfield. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) manages the site, and the Illinois Capital Development Board (CDB) is overseeing the work. The site is now closed to the public and will remain so for the duration of the project.

"The Old State Capitol is one of the most revered historic sites in Illinois," Governor Pritzker said. "I'm proud that our administration is investing in the preservation of the site to ensure future generations can connect to this place and to the important lessons in history that are shared here."

The scope of work provides for removing and replacing the historic site roof, repairing damaged plaster, replacing wood flooring on the main and upper levels, basement waterproofing, restoring the perimeter fence, and upgrading one hydraulic and two traction elevators. In addition, the project includes remodeling and expanding the existing public restrooms, replacing the fire alarm system, and replacing plumbing systems. Furthermore, the project includes funding

for the abatement of asbestos-containing materials.

This is the second phase of an ongoing preservation project at the site. The first phase focused on restoration of the building's drum (the structure that supports the dome). The total investment from both phases is \$17.6 million.

"The Old State Capitol is the heart of the city. Not only does it host daily guided tours, it's also the site of such activities as naturalization ceremonies, History Comes Alive programs and holiday festivities," said IDNR site superintendent Justin Blandford. "This investment is critical to our ability to address deferred maintenance as well as safety upgrades to ensure world-class preservation and visitor experience."

The Old State Capitol, a reconstruction of Illinois' statehouse from 1840 to 1876, is the building in which John Jones and Frances Gage worked to expand the meaning of freedom and where Abraham Lincoln worked as a lawyer before the Supreme Court and delivered his famous "House Divided" speech in 1858.

Recently, the Old State Capitol unveiled a new historical marker to commemorate the campaign announcements of Barack Obama in 2007 and 2008, and the National Park Service added the site to its National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom list. The Old State Capitol is a National Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Guardians of the Garden invite you to save the date, save the pollinators, save the Earth

SPRING VALLEY — When was the last time you went grocery shopping or out to eat? Did you know that the activities of Pollinators were responsible for about one third of your grocery list and approximately every third bite of your dinner?

Pollinator species have been in decline over the past few decades and many efforts are underway to restore their habitats and insure their continued role in our ecosystems. Guardians of the Garden invite you to join them for an Earth Day event on Saturday April 22 from 1-4 p.m. at the Hall High School Conservation Garden in Spring Valley.

The garden is comprised of 11 islands of native wildflowers. These gardens were planned and planted by students under the supervision of their teachers. Phase 1 of the garden was funded by the Department of Natural Resources and Trees Forever, both awarding grants of one thousand dollars each. Eleven thousand dollars was awarded for phase 2 by Illinois Clean Energy Foundation. These gardens have become an important part of interdisciplinary instruction at Hall High School.

On Earth Day, activities for all ages will include learning about native plants and their pollinators, becoming an environmental steward and opportunities to join

local 4-H programs, become a Master Gardener or Master Naturalist and start your very own wildlife habitat. Participants can also learn how to adopt and maintain an island of the garden through the summer months.

Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists will be on site to educate and explore the many species of native plants in the garden. Participants will have the opportunity to try their hand at creating a painted pot and transplanting a pollinator plant to take home and monitor pollinator visits in their own backyard. Prizes will be available in three categories for an endangered pollinator species chalk drawing

contest.

Other activities will include exploring insect and flower parts under the microscope and learning facts about pollinators through a presentation as well as games of pollinator jeopardy. If you have been considering planting a pollinator garden and fostering the growth of native plants, this is your chance to learn what they are, why they are important and how you can build your own nature sanctuary.

To register for this free event, go to go.illinois.edu/hallearthday. The Guardians of the Garden is a partnership of Hall High School teachers, the Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall and Putnam

County Master Gardener/Master Naturalist and 4-H Youth program. Please feel free to contact Bettyann Harrison, Master Gardener/Master Naturalist Coordinator at (309) 364-2356 or bettyann@illinois.edu with any questions about this great opportunity for all ages.

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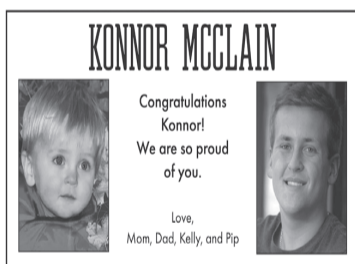
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Please call 815-539-9396 to arrange payment.

Deadline is 2:00PM on Tuesday, May 2.

This special feature will be published on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Photos may be picked up at The Mendota Reporter office after the May 10 publication date or we can mail back to you in a self-addressed stamped envelope. *Make sure emailed photos are at least 200dpi.

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Barbara A. Gehant

MENDOTA — Barbara A. Gehant, 85, of Mendota, passed away peacefully April 2, 2023 at Stonecroft Village, Mendota, surrounded by her loving family.

Private family services will be held Sunday, April 16 with visitation at 10 a.m. and services led by Linda Dinges at 11 a.m. all at Wasmer Funeral Home, Mendota. A private burial of ashes will be at the family homestead in rural West Brooklyn.

Barbara was born March 26, 1938, in Lee Center Township, Lee County, to Clarence and Evelyn (Chao) Montavon. She graduated from Lee Center High School where she was the senior prom queen and class president. Barb met her future husband, Ray Gehant at church and they were married on July 21, 1956. They celebrated 52 years of marriage before his passing in 2008.

Barbara will be sadly and forever missed by her seven children, Kim (Gary Metzen) Pohl of Mendota, Julie (Jeff) Sloan of Peru, Nick (Natalie) Gehant of Compton, Curt Gehant of Spring Valley, Linda (Mike) Osborne of Louisville, Ky., Dennis Gehant of Amboy and Pamela (Greg) Smith of Naperville. She was blessed with nine grandchildren, Korey (Donna Chu) Kromm, Tod (Jill) Sloan, Hilary (Bill) Krol, Cody Gehant, Lilly Gehant, Adam Gehant, Libby (Brett) Gustafson, Sydney (Jaylen Lockhart) Rehm and Patrick Rehm. She was extra blessed with five great-grandchildren, Jax and Rory Sloan, Isaac and Fallon Gehant, Jeffrey Krol and an additional baby Lockhart on the way; a brother Gene (Sandy) Montavon of Deland, Fla. and a sister Alice Delhotal of Escondido, Calif.; sisters-in-law Karen (Melvin) Delhotal, Susan (Larry) Eddy, Patty (Terry) Moyer, Kathy (Tim) Burkardt, Sherrie (John) Jacobs, and brother-in-law Mike (Colleen) Gehant. Barb is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond; her parents Clarence and Evie Montavon; her mother- and father-in-law, Raymond (Anna Mae) Gehant Sr.; sister and brother-in-law Lois and (Ken "Peany") Bruce; brother-in-law Wally Delhotal; sister-in-law and brother-in-law Don



(Tonna) Gehant; sister-in-law and brother-in-law Janet (Jerry) Hornung; and sister-in-law and brother-in-law Marylou (Jerry) Reeser.

After raising seven children in West Brooklyn, Barbara went to work for the Richardson Wildlife Foundation, formerly the Richardson Hunt Club as social and dining director. Barb and Ray loved camping and spent many summers at the Green River Oaks Campground. They often camped at the Sandwich Fair with friends and family.

Barb enjoyed festive decorating for every holiday. She loved going to garage sales and shopping at thrift stores-her favorites were Nightengales and PADS. She enjoyed baking and her famous "brooklyn brownies" were always a favorite at holidays and picnics. More than anything she treasured and loved her children and their families. After retirement, Barb and Ray moved to DeBary, Fla., where they made lots of new friends. She continued her festive decorating by turning their golf cart into a moving holiday on wheels. Many times, she won a first-place ribbon for best decorated.

Barb was a proud member of the Red Hat Society and always loved wearing hats to complement her bright and fun outfits. After Ray's passing, Barb moved back to Mendota and bought a house across the street from her daughter. She loved to tell her friends that she lived on the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival parade route. She enjoyed many train rides to Chicago with her daughters to see musicals and holiday lights. In 2018, she moved to Stonecroft Village where she made many new friends and met old acquaintances. She was fondly called the Mayor of Stonecroft because of her friendly personality and genuine manner. She was always happy, had the biggest heart, and a beautiful smile on her face. She made it a priority to personally greet and welcome new residents so they were comfortable in their new home. The staff at Stonecroft truly adored her because of her great attitude and cheerful self.

Barb loved traveling to her daughter's home in Louisville, Ky., where they cooked and baked many new recipes. She also loved to take road trips to Woodhaven Lakes where they would see and count the deer, wild turkeys and other wildlife. Her excursions would always be followed by dinner at one of her favorite places: the Beaver Den, Long Branch, Ziggie's or McDonald's. Barb had just celebrated her 85th birthday with family and friends at a party at Stonecroft Village. She left this legacy to all who knew her: Love big and no judgment.

Memorials may be made to Mendota Area Senior Services (MASS) or donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.

Patricia M. Schrader

MENDOTA—Patricia M. Schrader, 74, of Mendota, passed away unexpectedly at her home on April 6, 2023.

Funeral services were Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 11 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota with Vicar Anthony Windau officiating. Burial will be in Lutheran Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation was Tuesday, April 11 from 5-7 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota.

Pat was born April 10, 1948, in Mendota, to Edwin and Arlene (Walzer) Klein. She married Albert Schrader on June 25, 1982, in Mendota.

Pat is survived by her husband Albert; her son Leroy Schrader of Mendota; stepson Albert Schrader, Jr; her sister Shirley (Elvis) Breedlove of Oswego; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a stepdaughter, Nancy Schrader.

Pat graduated from Mendota High School in 1966. She was employed at RR Donnelley for many years until her retirement. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and the Lydia Circle and the Women of the Moose. She enjoyed playing bingo and doing outdoor activities. Pat had a special love for her family and friends and her pets Henny and Snoop. She was always very good hearted and would help anyone she could.

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



Catherine A. Howell

ROCKFORD — Catherine A. Howell, 82, of Rockford, passed away Saturday, April 1, 2023, at Amberwood Care Center, Rockford.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 11 a.m. at Holy Cross Church, Mendota with Father Jeff Windy officiating. Private burial will be at St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery, Amboy at a later date. Visitation will be held from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota on April 15.

Catherine was born Nov. 13, 1940, in Amboy, to Louis and Marie (Morrissey) Shannon. She married William Howell on Aug. 4, 1969.

She is survived by her brother Robert Shannon of Pompano Beach, Fla.; stepdaughter Joy McKenzie of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; stepson Bill Howell of Murfreesboro, Tenn.; step-grandson Chris McKenzie and family of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; and also numerous nieces, nephews, great and great-nieces and nephews. Cathy was especially close with her sister Rosemary's family, including nieces Kathi (Bob) Sheridan, Peggy (Dave) Joerger, Patty (Ron) Contreras and Barb (Chris) Notz and nephews Jim Stephenitch and Gene (Cindy) Stephenitch.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband in 2003, four brothers John Shannon, Ray Shannon Ned Shannon and Jim Shannon and her sister Rosemary Shannon Stephenitch, two nephews and one niece.

Cathy graduated from Amboy High School in 1958 and spent her entire working career in finance, retiring from American General Finance in Rockford. She was an excellent cook, and one of her joys in life, along with helping people, was entertaining and serving delicious meals on holidays and other occasions. She and her husband, Bill, especially enjoyed their times at Lake Ripley in Cambridge, Wisconsin with family and friends.

Memorials may be directed to American Parkinson Disease Association or the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



John J. Mini

SUBLETTE — John J. "Jack" Mini, 78, of Sublette, died April 5, 2023, at his home.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Saturday April 15, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Sublette. Burial with military honors will follow at St. Mary Cemetery in Sublette. Visitation will be on Friday April 14, 2023, from 4-7 p.m. at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy with a Scripture service at 3:30 p.m.

He was born March 27, 1945, in Spring Valley, the son of Rootle and Lena (Arrigio) Mini. Jack married Christine Nowinski on May 27, 1972, at St. Mary of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Chicago.

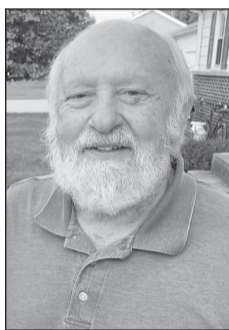
Jack is survived by his wife Christine; two sons Christopher Mini of Clermont, Fla., and Gregory Mini of Chicago; and one granddaughter Kaylee Mini.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister Rose Uselmann and one brother Donald Mini.

Jack had been a highway maintainer for IDOT for 30 years and then had worked in shipping and receiving at Mendota Community Hospital for several years.

He was a veteran of the Navy during the Vietnam War serving on the USS Enterprise. He was a member of the VFW and the Mendota Elks Club.

Online condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.



Trudy Lara

SPRING VALLEY — Trudy Lara, 60, of Spring Valley, passed away Sunday, April 2, 2023, at Aperion Care Center, Spring Valley.

Visitation will be Friday, April 14, 2023 from 5-7 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota.

Trudy was born Jan. 3, 1963, in Aurora to John and Clarice (Harmon) Hickman. She married Hector Lara on April 27, 1979.

She is survived by her three sons, Matthew (Melanie) Lara of Mendota, Joshua (Jennifer) Lara of Spring Valley and Chaz (Maggie Balicki) of Ladd; five sisters, Karen, Becky, Evelyn, Amanda and Clarissa; and seven grandchildren, Makayla, Angel, Brianna, Jasmine, Luykis, Zachary and Anastasia.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband in 2018 and her sister Didi.

Trudy was a homemaker and a wonderful and protective wife, mother and grandmother. She had a green thumb and enjoyed flowers and gardening. She loved to collect jewelry and was a great free-hand artist and writer.

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



Please see more Obituaries on Page A10.

See the latest obituaries at www.mendotareporter.com

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Artistic Memorials

The Mendota Reporter
Publication No. (USPS 339-100)
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Vote Totals - April 4 Election

(Winners in bold italics)

CITY OF EARLVILLE

Alderman-Ward 1
Michael Goodbred.....33

Alderman-Ward 2
Steven J. Osborne.....32

Alderman-Ward 3
Jacob M. Neal.....15

John Boltz.....41

CITY OF MENDOTA

Alderman-Ward 1
John Hessenberger.....90

Alderman-Ward 2
John Holland.....80

Alderman-Ward 3
Jay Miller.....45

Alderman-Ward 4
Mark Peasley.....102

VILL. OF TROY GROVE

Trustee
John R. Graper.....24

Marlene Melan.....27

Ben Ross.....35

Galen Eich.....42

GRAVES-HUME LIBRARY

Trustee (4-year term)
Martha Schmitt.....329

EARLVILLE DIST. 9
Jennifer R. Smith.....158

Barbara Meloy.....146

Sarah Cook.....133

Adam Browder.....125

MENDOTA DIST. 289

Brenda Schroeder.....532

Sarah Landers.....512

Theresa Komitas.....422

MENDOTA DIST. 280

Sarah Coss.....518

Megan Faber.....537

Matt Hanaman.....490

VILL. OF LA MOILLE

Trustee
Nicholas Wamhoff.....82

Bradley Fischer.....75

William Schwabenland.....84

LA MOILLE DIST. 303

(2-year term)
Robin A. Lovgren.....196

Christopher Leffelman.....186

(4-year term)

James Scully.....168

Cynthia L. Shevokas.....151

Steven M. Wendel.....168

Bradley Fischer.....180

VILL. OF COMPTON

Trustee (4-year term)
Steve Gilmore.....15

Vincent J. Houle.....12

Hazel Sims.....11

(2-year term)

Will Giza.....9

Kimberly A. Menzel.....14

VILL. OF PAW PAW

Trustee (4-year term)
Kathryn Fabiszak.....49

Stacy (Pete) Bullock.....53

Ellyn Schoenholz.....56

(2-year term)

Kathy Lamb.....54

VILL. OF SUBLETTE

Trustee
Linda Klaser.....26

Richard Klaser.....30

Brigantia O'Sadnick.....25

Mackenzie Belan.....34

VILL. OF W. BROOKLYN

Trustee (4-year term)
Donald Farris.....10

Dawn Sheehan.....10

Haley Studebaker.....10

(2-year term)

Ronald Paugels.....11

PAW PAW DIST. 271

(4-year term)
Rachel Brewer.....71

Todd Schrader.....68

Jared Penman.....74

IVCC schedules ag open house for April 25th

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's agriculture department will host its Spring Open House at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 25 in the Ralph Scriba Conference Center, CTC124-125.

High school students, parents, instructors and administrators are cordially invited. Check-in is at 8:45 a.m.

"The event will show students how we can help them accomplish their goals and dreams—at an affordable price," said agriculture program co-coordinator Willard Mott.

Students will learn about IVCC's growing program and interact with current ag students and instructors. In addition, enrollment and scholarship information will be presented and tours offered.

Online preregistration is required by Monday, April 24 at www.ivcc.edu/agriculture.

For information, contact Mott at (815) 224-0413 or willard_mott@ivcc.edu or program co-coordinator Dr. Jennifer Timmers at (815) 224-0495 or jennifer_timmers@ivcc.edu.

Windows

Continued from Page A1

dows are more than just something nice to look at," Vicar Windau said. "They serve many functions. We had one church member say, 'They tell the gospel in glass.' They tell stories.

"The images were originally created for people who couldn't read to help them understand scripture. Today, we don't need that as much, but they're beautiful, they remind us of the stories that we know, and it's something that are ancestors started in 1935.

"They put in the windows 87 years ago and it's our responsibility to update and maintain them. Not just for ourselves, but for those who come after us. They are historic and they add so much to the worship space."

Willet Hauser Architectural Glass began the St. John's Lutheran Church stained-glass window project on March 20 and finished updating the 57 windows on Monday, April 3.

Spending

Continued from Page A1

The COGFA report noted that over the past five years, state revenues have grown at a rate of 12 percent on average, compared to the 7.1 percent average expenditure growth.

Pandemic-era federal stimulus funds have mostly dried up, however, and their effect on the nation's economy is beginning to wane. Many economic forecasts anticipate a mild recession is on its way.

The slowdown was evidenced in COGFA's March revenue update that was published recently, showing that revenues declined \$563 million from the same month last year. It marked the first year-over-year decline for any month this year, but COGFA noted the drop was expected after a record March 2022.

In other words, revenue growth rates of 18 percent and 12 percent that were seen in fiscal years 2021 and 2022 are not likely to be repeated anytime soon.

COGFA anticipates revenues will shrink by 1.4 percent to \$50.4 billion in the upcoming FY 24 and remain under current-year levels until FY 2026, when they jump 2.5 percent to \$52.2 billion.

As for spending, one important caveat is that the growth of the past two years has been at least partially driven by measures that COGFA described as "fiscal discipline." That includes debt retirement, increased pension payments and long-term savings.

It has also included temporary tax relief and other one-time expenditures that won't carry over from one fiscal year to the next.

But spending across human services, education and other agencies has also grown.

"Current forecasts would allow for more of this kind of spending in the short-term," COGFA wrote in the report. "However, longer-term, economic and tax revenue forecasts remain murky as the potential for a recession remains."

The three-year report also analyzed threats to the state's fiscal position, including the potential recession,

a COVID-19 resurgence, population loss and pension debt among others.

Many of the threats, the report noted, "can be directly linked" to "a long-term trend of having expenditures being higher than revenues." It also noted that "work still remains" for the state to achieve a "budgetary system that is more stable in the long-term."

"An opportunity exists to improve the state's financial situation by better aligning the revenues and expenditures of the state. This can be done by raising revenues, cutting spending, or some combination of both," the report noted.

Illinois could also achieve stability by broadening its sales tax to include more services.

"The Illinois sales tax was originally developed in the 1930s when the economy was much more reliant on goods production," the report noted. "By taxing services, the tax system would modernize to more accurately reflect the economy of 2023."

The revenues resulting from a service tax could be used to offset a portion of the sales tax on goods and "allow for the overall tax rate to be lowered," according to the report.

The state could also save money by reducing statutory interest payments on overdue bills and using current-year surpluses for "paying down debt, investing for future growth, reducing taxes, and/or returning money to taxpayers."

But on the whole, the report noted, "After the budget stalemate that occurred from 2015-2017, the state's financial position has been getting better each year."

That two-year impasse between Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and Democrats in the General Assembly drove the state's bill backlog to nearly \$17 billion and caused crippling cuts across state agencies.

The report's final piece of advice: "The State needs to continue to show fiscal discipline and demonstrate that the results of the past few years are not an anomaly."

IVCC to present musical "The Prom" April 13-23

OGLESBY – Featuring a cast of community members, former and current professional actors, students and staff, the Illinois Valley Community College Theatre Department presents the area premier of the new Broadway musical, "The Prom," April 13-23 in the Dr. Mary Margaret Weeg Cultural Centre.

"We're thrilled to have landed this new title," said Director and Choreographer of Musical Theatre, Don Grant Zellmer.

"The Prom was on Broadway in 2018 and 2019, and I absolutely couldn't have found a better cast to bring this show to life. It was so popular, Netflix produced a film version starring Meryl Streep in 2021 that received critical acclaim, as did the Broadway production when it was nominated for six Tony Awards and named a 'New York Times Top Pick,'" said Zellmer.

The central story is based on an actual event when a high school prom in Mississippi was canceled because a senior honor student asked to bring her girlfriend to prom.

"That, however, is where the reality part ends," Zellmer says. "The musical's creators built on that, and created a wild storyline that begins in New York when four ego-fueled and unaware Broadway actors — whose show opens and closes on the same night — decide to become 'celebrity activists' to repair their images.

"They travel to conservative, small-town Indiana (where the story was relocated) and make the situation go from bad to hilariously worse," Zellmer continues.

"The combination of these two worlds colliding skewers — and has fun — with the entire spectrum from ultra-conservative to ultra-liberal, with unexpected, side-splitting results, but common ground is discovered by a love that unites them all."

The musical features Matt Valle, Dr. Tracey Childers, Natalie Verucchi and Jake Jakielski as the Broadway stars. Valle recently returned

to the area following a long career on stage in Los Angeles and Chicago, and the others bring professional credits with them as well.

At the center of everyone's attention are the high school seniors, Emma and Alyssa, played by IVCC students Zoe Starkey and Lexi Johnson.

"I think this may be one of the funniest and heartwarming productions we've produced to date," said Dr. David Kuester, IVCC theatre and speech instructor who produces the show.

"It's such a unique and fresh musical. From traditional big Broadway numbers to the pop score of the actual prom, it's truly just a joyful experience. We're honored to be one of the first colleges to be granted the royalties," Kuester said.

The Prom plays Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. April 13 through 23. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$15 for high school and under.

Online reservations are available at www.ivcc.edu/theatre, or may be purchased at the box office the date of each performance beginning one hour prior to showtime.

Audiences should note: The Prom contains infrequent coarse language and adult themes (PG).

The musical is directed, choreographed and designed by Zellmer, produced and costumed by Kuester, with technical direction by Chad Brokaw and musical direction by Alex Guerrero.

Cast members include Starkey and Courtney Atkinson of Princeton; Childers and Johnson, Ottawa; Ethan Darrow, Alessandro DeLeon, Bree Ninis, Madysen Koesler, Streator; Jakielski, Marseilles; Valle, Natalie Verucchi, Brian Towne, Alyce Scott and Zellmer, La Salle; Kelly Johnson, Seneca; David Zuniga, Oglesby; Jennifer Walk, Hennepin; Austin Hack, Wenona; Gennaro Piccolo, Spring Valley; and Crystal Credi and Zoe Bush, Peru.



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OPINION



The Mendota Reporter

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

Just what can AI do?

By Scott Reeder

I refuse to use self-checkout lanes at the grocery store.

This isn't a new thing. I just don't like the technology. It's not that I find it too complicated. My objection is that when I use it, I'm contributing to someone losing their job.

Low skill, repetitive jobs like those of checkout clerks as on the chopping blocks as technology marches onward. Perhaps I'm overly nostalgic. But I like chatting with the checkout clerks as I'm buying my milk and vegetables.

A machine has never given me a smile or suggested a less expensive brand of flour. But some well-intentioned folks working the checkout lane have done just that.

Truck drivers may soon face a similar threat as artificial intelligence is perfected and self-driving vehicles become commonplace. I was reading a Wall Street Journal article that said the future of truck stops is imperiled.

They may just become automatic fueling stations with no need to serve coffee, beef jerky and donuts. Showers and restrooms will become a thing of the past. Robots, after all, don't need such things.

A whole industry scattered across rural America may atrophy away.

When I read predictions like this, it's easy to become smug and self-congratulatory. I can applaud myself for pursuing college degrees and choosing a profession that requires thinking and creativity.

Writing, after all, isn't something that can be outsourced to a machine. Or can it?

This past week, I've been experimenting with artificial intelligence chatbots. I grew up in Galesburg, a railroad town that was the home of the poet Carl Sandburg. So just for fun, I asked a chatbot to write a poem about hometowns and railroads in Carl Sandburg's style.

In less than three seconds, it composed this poem:

Hometown Train

I hear the train that comes from far
The one that brings me back to home
I see the smoke that trails the sky
The one that marks the way I roam
I feel the rumble and the roar
The one that shakes me to the bone
I smell the iron and the steel
The one that makes me not alone
I taste the dust and sweat and tears
The one that tells me what I've done
I touch the ticket and the rail
The one that shows me where I'm from

If I were a high school English teacher, I'd give a student who turned that in an "A." And frankly I couldn't have come up with a title for the poem in the time it took my cell phone to compose it.

That's intimidating. Last month, I spent hours writing a sermon. (I occasionally volunteer as a lay preacher.) Just curious about the limits of artificial technology, two weeks later I asked my chatbot to compose a sermon on the same topic in the Rev. Billy Graham's style.

Three seconds later, a full sermon appeared on my computer screen. It had the rhythm and meter of something Rev. Graham might have written. It stayed true to his Evangelical theology and emphasized Bible passages that would have been dear to one of history's most successful evangelists.

I sat there quietly intimidated. Could the work I do someday be outsourced to a machine? More importantly, will human beings lose their ability to compose literature on their own?

I foresee a lot of high school and college students turning to artificial intelligence – rather than their own – to write poems and compositions. It's unlikely a teacher grading papers would know the difference.

With such a convenient crutch, will youngsters give up on the agonizing trial and error necessary to learn to write?

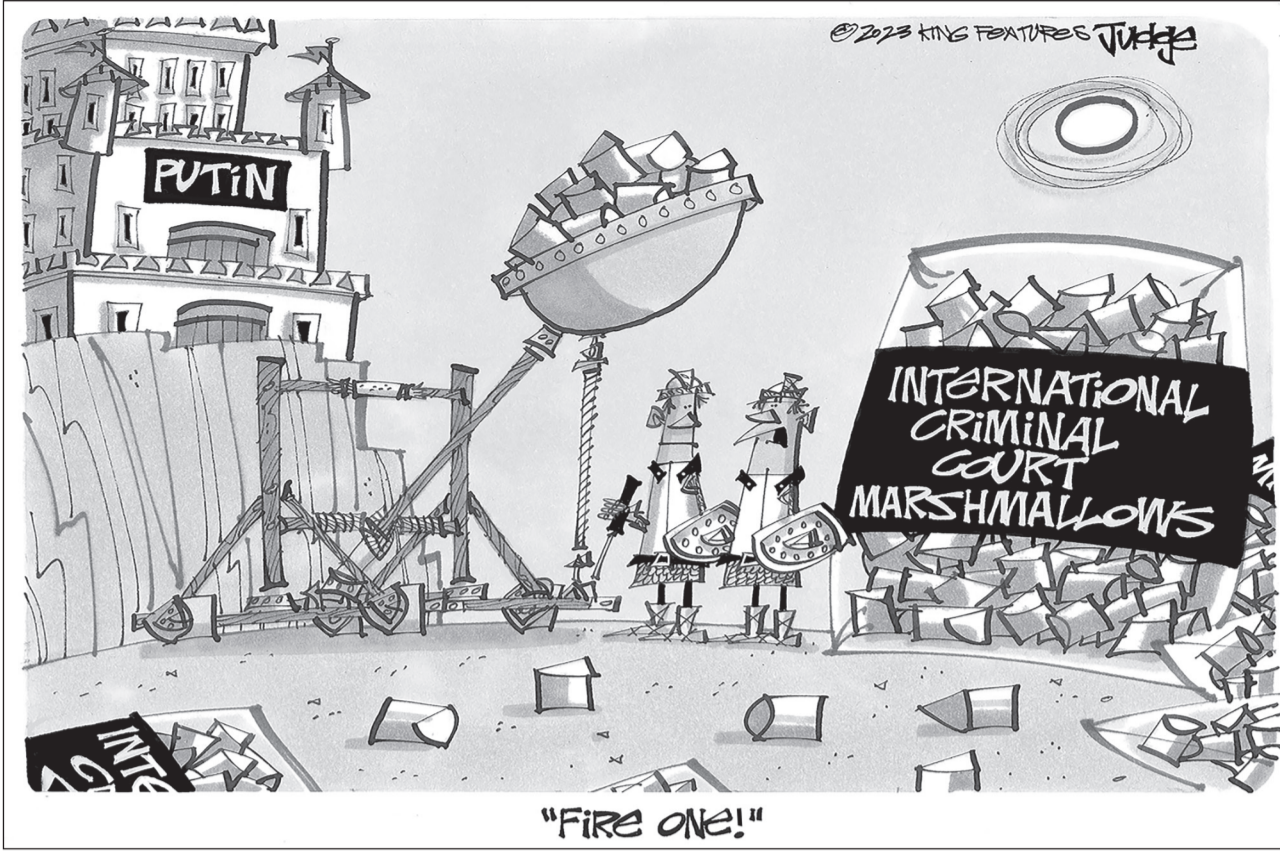
When I asked the chatbot to write a news story on a topic I had written about the previous week, the story it wrote was a disaster. I breathed a sigh of relief.

Why did it fail?

Well, a machine can only work with the body of information that is available to it. It can scour the internet for answers. But it can't pick up a phone and drag answers out of a politician reluctant to give them or interview a sobbing crime victim who needs the prompting of a reassuring voice to tell her story.

A friend who is a Canadian journalist puts it this way: Artificial intelligence plagiarizes – it doesn't generate new information. Artificial intelligence lacks basic desires such as empathy, love and justice. It can only mimic those human attributes and not particularly well – for now.

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



Starting new fire station – 1982

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from April 17, 2002.)

By Jessica Nashold

When groundbreaking for the new fire station on Main Street took place April 8, 1982. The Reporter included 14 of the principal participants in a group picture on the front page of the April 14 issue.

They were Alan Russell, architect; Michael Guilfoyle, city attorney; Michael Wasmer, city clerk; Jim Johnson, fire chief; Ken Kessinger, assistant fire chief; Art Madden, building inspector; Don Jones, Russell Miller, Del Knowlton and Jim Strouss, aldermen; Mayor Ken Roling; Chamber director Andrea Bryan; and William Phalen, president of Phalen Steel Construction.

Russell's design for the new building at 608 S. Main was displayed in both the First State Bank and National Bank of Mendota for public viewing. All were agreed that the new location would allow a speedier response to fires.

Anticipated completion – Oct. 1.

The Chamber of Commerce sponsored creation of a marble collage of outstanding Mendota landmarks. Only 180 would be "hand-made and numbered." They would be priced at \$125 plus tax, for a total of \$131.25. Chamber members Jim Wade and Jack Robison were working with the artist to choose the landmarks to be included. Chamber director Andrea Bryan's prediction –

They will be collector's items.

While the topic of banning liquor at Lake Mendota was under discussion in city council meetings, The Mendota Reporter collected a few opinions in random street interviews. Tom Marmion, 32, favored a limited ban. "People like to drink at reunions." Lynn Whitmore, 70, thought a no-drinking area could be set aside "for those who object to drinking." Mrs. Lewis Spohn, 75, thought there could be a restricted area on Lake Mendota grounds. Ken Piller, 50, didn't think restricted areas would work. Asked Piller –

Would they put up fences?

Backtracks & Sidetracks

Ken Butler, a past president of the Horatio Alger Society in Mendota, traveled to Philadelphia in April 1982 to hear the Postmaster General introduce a Horatio Alger commemorative postage stamp. It would be issued in May. The society had played an important part in winning approval for the stamp. Butler hoped to have 1,000 Alger stamps available at the Mendota post office on opening day.

Butler's private Alger collection lacked only four titles to be complete" "Try & Trust," "Do & Dare," "Brave & Bold," and "Fame & Fortune."

A Chamber Profile of Motor Wheel, by The Reporter's Audrey Lawrence, featured an interview with Robert "Skip" Stachlewitz, manager of the Mendota division. The Mendota plant opened in 1963 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Goodyear with headquarters in Lansing, Mich. Starting with tractor wheels, they changed to Chrysler wheels, then wheels for GM and American. In 1982, the Mendota plant had 107 hourly and 31 salaried employees.

As American Legion Post 540 prepared to move to new quarters, in 1982, Reggie Robeson placed the original charter of Mendota's chapter of Civil War veterans with the Graves Public Library, for safekeeping. The Legion had been given custody of the charter after the last Civil War veteran in the Mendota area had died. The charter lists the names of the original 12 members.

The MHS Board accepted a bid of \$100,000 from Koehler Construction Co. for a "handicapped accessibility" project. This would include ramps on first and second floors and an outside ramp near the cafeteria entrance. Some toilet modifications were planned, as well.

Newly-elected president of NOA, Pete Donahue, presented retiring president, Rev. E.J. Hanstaad with an engraved token of appreciation for accomplishments during his tenure.

The high school board agreed to consider issuing letters for outstanding achievement in "the arts." They would be similar to letters for athletes.

Ladies in Project NOA modeled hats in a number of categories on April 7, 1982. Ruth Politsch had the winning hat with an Easter theme. Norine Schmitz received recognition for "the most outlandish creation." Irene Momeny had the largest hat. Vera Schlesinger, in bunny costume, led the Easter parade.

A jazz band, made up of MHS and Northbrook bands as well as band members "from the past," presented a jazz concert at the high school, April 22, 1982.

There is no charge.

Bridges on First Avenue and Monroe Street, which had been under construction for more than a year, were opened in April 1982.

Money Market certificates in Mendota financial institutions were yielding 13.154% in April 1982.

Kim Schlesinger, an MHS sophomore, was first to receive the John Becker Memorial Award. Band leaders Robert Baile and Hugh Richardson compiled a list of eligible candidates. Members of the concert band voted, choosing Schlesinger, a clarinetist. Her name was placed first on a permanent plaque of winners of the new award. She also received an individual plaque during the 1982 graduation concert.

Karen Troupis, outgoing president of the Mendota Community Hospital Auxiliary, presented MCH administrator, E.E. Williams, a check for \$11,400, the proceeds from several fundraising events during her year in office.

Don't valorize January 6

By Rich Lowry

The philosopher Eric Hoffer famously wrote, "Every great cause begins as a movement, becomes a business, and eventually degenerates into a racket."

What he evidently didn't count on was great outrages becoming causes.

From the perspective of the immediate aftermath of Jan. 6, it was hard enough to believe that Donald Trump would survive the event, let alone make it a plank in a powerful comeback bid just a few years later.

But there was Trump in Waco, Texas, opening his inaugural rally of the 2024 campaign with a recording of the song "Justice for All" that he performed with the J6 Prison Choir, with some scenes of Jan. 6 playing on the jumbotrons.

Among those favorably inclined toward it, the riot at the Capitol has progressed from something to be minimized closer to something to be celebrated, almost, if not quite, "Stop the Steal's" Bastille Day.

For Trump, a master at appropriating the catch lines and attacks of the other side, reversing the meaning of Jan. 6 would be his most audacious move yet. How long is it before that day becomes "the perfect protest?"

Trump still hews to the two premises of the Jan. 6 riot -- that, as a general proposition, the 2020 election was stolen and, more particularly, that Vice President Mike Pence could have stopped the counting of the electoral votes if he weren't so weak.

Trump has talked about pardoning the rioters, who are "great patriots," and floated the idea of the government apologizing to many of them.

Now, it is true that the Justice Department has gone out of its way to run up the number of prosecutions to make a political point about the seriousness of the event, and defendants have been denied bail in a highly unusual manner.

That said, making excuses for or valorizing Jan. 6 is deeply wrong.

First, there's the matter of principle. Riots are bad and never justified. They hurt people and destroy property, while

achieving nothing or setting back the cause they were supposed to advance. Disorder at the heart of the U.S. government, disrupting a longstanding ritual connected to the peaceful transfer of power, is particularly egregious.

Second, justifying or excusing political violence has a deranging influence on the republic. The more reasons both sides have to physically fear each other, the easier it is to justify extreme measures in response.

Third, it's simply terrible politics. If the other side is desperate to portray you as in bed with fanatics and rioters, it's best not to go out of your way to prove them right. It's perverse that just as the Jan. 6 Committee is no longer in a position to constantly remind the public of Jan. 6, here comes Donald Trump to remind people.

It'd be a little like Richard Nixon running for the 1976 Republican presidential nomination, and campaigning with a barbershop quartet made up of Watergate burglars.

Or Ulysses S. Grant running for a third term while extolling the unappreciated virtues of the organizers of the Whiskey Ring scandal.

What Trump is doing flies in the face of the lessons of the midterms. Jan. 6 lent emotional power to the Democratic argument that democracy was under threat, and Stop the Steal candidates proved radioactive. Trump wants, in effect, to repeat November 2022's failed political experiment on a larger scale in 2024.

On top of his natural inclinations, Trump may be making a calculation that in a primary race with Ron DeSantis to be the most "MAGA" Republican candidate, he can't lose by staking out a pro-Jan. 6 position. That's not a crazy bet, but if Trump is going to be beaten it will probably be, in part, on grounds that he carries too much baggage and is an electability risk. By embracing rather than skirting one of his major vulnerabilities, he gives his adversaries more ammunition on both counts.

Jan. 6 is an outrage that shouldn't become a cause.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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- Identify where to go if you are at work or school
- Make a family communications plan

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There is NO safe place outside during a thunderstorm but these actions may slightly reduce your risk of being struck by lightning.

- Avoid open fields, the top of a hill or a ridge top
 - Stay away from tall, isolated trees or other tall objects
 - Stay away from water, wet items, and metal objects
- Note: A tent or open air building like a picnic shelter will NOT protect you from lightning.**



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SPORTS

We do it to ourselves

Sports mean a lot of different things to a lot of different people.

Some hate them.

Some love them.

Some are obsessed.

Some don't see the point.

Some learn life lessons and receive a clearer meaning of life through sports.

Others use sports as analogies or use them to describe or understand outside the court or field topics.

We're going to do that today.

A week ago, after the LSU women's basketball team defeated Iowa, 102-85 in the NCAA National Championship, no one was talking about the game.

Not a dunk, a shot, a bad decision, a bad whistle, a great coaching game plan, or the good or bad play of the school band.



Not the Last Chance

By Brandon LaChance

Instead all the talk, scuttlebutt, was about LSU forward Angel Reese giving Iowa sophomore Caitlin Clark the John Cena "You can't see me" hand wave in front of the face

and then raising one hand and point to her ring finger with the other hand signifying they were going to win the championship.

And the media, us, and a lot of commentators on Facebook and Twitter instantly made it an issue about race because Reese is African American, and Clark is Caucasian.

When I was reading the comments, I instantly put my hand to my forehead and shook my head side to side and asked, 'Why?'

Why are we constantly blowing up actions or reactions in sports and making them out to be more than they should be? Why do we do it to ourselves? Why do we do it to our culture and society?

What Reese did had absolutely nothing to do with color of skin.

The black/white narrative was created just to stir up hate, click bate, cause problems, and keep our society in chaos and unwritten segregation.

I was at a Lil' Wayne concert in Chicago on Sunday. Happy Easter to me!

On three separate occasions, me (white, almost fresh paint on the wall shade of white) and human beings of different skin color bumped into each other or received an elbow into the ribs as we were jamming out to Weezy.

We didn't turn it into a racial issue, not once. The 'my bad' or a head nod of respect was given and both parties went on about their lives.

So why do we have to turn competitive athletes being competitive athletes against each other?

Clark had done the John Cena to almost every team Iowa defeated in the NCAA tournament on its way to the championship, including when the Hawkeyes beat the defending champions, South Carolina. Clark made the gesture many times.

She had it coming.

LSU was taking Iowa out and had every right to do the John Cena back to kind of say, 'Gotcha.'

This has been happening in sports since the beginning of time. It didn't start when Reese did what she did. She's a competitor and made a gesture back to a competitor who has done it herself.

In terms of pointing to the ring finger, it was classless, as many have said. The gesture would have been OK and labeled as proudful if she wasn't looking straight into Clark's eyes and walking toward her.

But since Reese was, she should have been called for a flagrant, Iowa shoots the free throws, and the game, the players, the teams, the coaches, and the world goes about their business.

In sports, we'll focus on basketball, there was been all kinds of acts viewed as classless. I bet everyone reading this column remembers Dennis Rodman.

He kicked camera men, threw basketballs at opponent's heads, fought on the court, and many, many other incidents happened during his career. He was called for technical fouls, thrown out of games, and seriously fined.

And now Dennis Rodman is revered, has his jersey hanging in the United Center in Chicago, and is in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

An action or reaction a competitor makes is handled, it's over, and we move on.

Why are we causing more conflict and issues by turning athlete's actions – Reese is 20 years old and is still a kid, by the way – into issues like racism.

It's not racism. It's getting back at your opponent, Clark, who won every player of the year award in the college landscape this season.

Reese took the opportunity to one up Clark, which she should have.

That's it. That's all.



Jacob Carr, second from left, gets ready to take off with the baton after a handoff from Kody Chase during the 4x800 meter relay at the Don Gooden Invitational on April 8 at the MHS stadium. The Trojan relay team finished in fifth place. (Reporter photos)

El Paso-Gridley dominates Gooden Invite

MENDOTA – Schools from a wide-ranging area converged on Mendota for the annual Don Gooden Invitational on April 8 at the MHS stadium.

El Paso-Gridley was the star of the meet, taking first-place honors in both the boys' and girls' meets. The EP-G boys piled up 154.5 points to easily out-distance second-place Kewanee (109). The Trojans finished in 12th place with 17.5 points. The EP-G girls scored 93.8333 points to edge Princeton, which had 91 points. Mendota's girls did not score.

Mendota's best finish in the boys' meet was fourth place. Sebastian Carlos ran the 400-meter dash in 54.12, while the 4x400 meter relay team was clocked in 3:45.82. Runners were Mason Koch, Kody Chase, Anthony Kelson and Carlos.

The top finish for the Lady Trojans was ninth place by the 4x100 meter relay team with a time of 59.63. Participants were Ashley Caracheo, Ella Martin, Grace Wasmer and Kennedy Knaff.

Gooden Invite – April 8 (boys)

El Paso-Gridley 154.5, Kewanee 109, Bureau Valley 78.5, Byron 67, Princeton 65, Amboy-LaMoille 45.5, Kewanee Wethersfield 41, Harvard 41, Pecatonica



Ella Martin, left, takes the baton from Ashley Caracheo during the 4x100 meter relay at the Don Gooden Invitational on April 8.

24.5, Fieldcrest 24.5, Hinckley-Big Rock 23, Mendota 17.5, Somonauk 7, Hall 4

Mendota 4th place: Sebastian Carlos, 400m dash, 54.12; 4x400m relay (Mason Koch, Kody Chase, Anthony Kelson, Carlos), 3:45.82

Mendota 5th place: 4x800m relay (Chase, Jacob Carr, Travis Mumm, Kelson), 9:32.82

Mendota 6th place: Kelson, 110m hurdles. .18.9

Mendota 8th place: Koch, long jump, 17-9 (girls)

El Paso-Gridley 93.8333, Princeton 91, Kewanee Wethersfield 81.75, Bureau Valley 74.5, Harvard 70, Sandwich 60.75, Amboy-LaMoille 55, Fieldcrest 47, Kewanee 46.8333, Byron 33.3333, Hall 27.75, Somonauk 2, Pecatonica 1, Hinckley-Big Rock 1, Mendota 0



Mendota's Mason Koch, right, sprints to the finish line in the 100-meter dash at the Don Gooden Invite.

St. Bede outlasts Trojans, 9-4

MENDOTA – St. Bede scored all of its runs in the final three innings to pull out a 9-4 extra-inning win over Mendota in a Three Rivers Conference baseball contest on April 6 at the MHS field.

The Trojans (3-4, 1-3) scored four runs in the third and held St. Bede scoreless until the sixth when it plated two. The visitors tied the game in the top of the seventh to send the game to extra innings. The Bruins pushed across five runs in the eighth to earn the victory.

Mendota collected eight hits, with Braiden Freeman (two singles, double) picking up three safeties and Owen Aughenbaugh (two singles) and Jace Baird (two singles) getting two hits apiece. Justin Randolph added a double and two runs batted in.

Freeman got the start on the mound and worked into the sixth inning when he was relieved by Baird, who was tagged with the loss. Freeman gave up seven hits, two earned runs, walked three and struck out six. Baird allowed one hit and five runs (three earned). He walked a pair and fanned a pair. Ryne Strauss finished up on the hill.

MHS earns two shutout soccer wins

The Mendota Lady Trojans rolled over DePue, 7-0, in varsity girls' soccer action on April 6 at DePue.

Crystal Garcia was the star of the game with five goals and two assists. Elaina Reddin added the other two goals and supplied three assists. Cassie Gonzalez and Kaley Siemer also had assists.

The Lady Trojans scored with four minutes left in the game to secure a 1-0 win over Monmouth-Roseville on April 10 at the MHS field.

Crystal Garcia had the goal, her 13th on the season. Naitzy Garcia posted her third shutout of the year.

Lady Trojans lose 2 in softball play

Morrison scored in all but one inning and held on for a 12-10 triumph over Mendota in a varsity softball contest on April 5 at Morrison.

The Lady Trojans owned a 5-2 lead until Morrison struck for four runs in the bottom of the fourth to move in front, 6-5. The contest went back and forth the rest of the way before the Fillies pushed across three runs in the bottom of the sixth that proved to be the eventual game-winners.

Mendota finished with eight hits, led by Katie Jenner and Madelyn Becker, who each singled and doubled.

Ava Eddy started in the circle for the Lady Trojans and allowed seven hits and five earned runs in four innings. She walked two and struck out two. Ryleigh Sondgeroth came on in the fifth and gave up six runs to take the loss. Morrison had 15 hits in the game.

St. Bede stymied the Lady Trojan bats en route to a 4-0 shutout victory in Three Rivers Conference action on April 6 at the MHS field.

The Lady Bruins got a superb pitching performance from Reagan Stoudt, who allowed just two hits in the complete-game victory. She walked two and struck out 13.

St. Bede scored single runs in the first, second, fifth and sixth frames. Addison Bontz walloped a solo homer for the visitors among the team's nine hits.

Sondgeroth went the distance in the circle for Mendota. She walked one and fanned one.

BOWLING

Wednesday Night Men's League

Final standings as of April 5 – 1. Boelk Truck Lines 68.5-51.5; 2. First State Bank 64.5-55.5; 3. Mendota Monument 54-66; 4. O'Donnell Excavating 53-67

High team game (scratch) – First State Bank 1021, Boelk Truck Lines 992, Mendota Monument 974

High team game (hdcp) – First State Bank 1129, Boelk Truck Lines 1105, O'Donnell Excavating 1073

High team series (scratch) – First State Bank 2964, Mendota Monument 2643, Boelk Truck Lines 2606

High team series (hdcp) – First State Bank 3288, O'Donnell Excavating 3091, Boelk Truck Lines 2945

High individual game (scratch) – Tim Dessing 245, Matt Novak 237, Nate Bradford 234

High individual series (scratch) – Tyler Schmitt 663, Tim Dessing 647, Joe Kennedy 641

Elks 4 Youth League

Standings as of April 6 – 1. Team 5 45-11; 2. Team 2 36-20; 3. Team 4 27-29; 4. Team 1 21-35; 5. Team 3 12-44

High team game (hdcp) – Team 5 637, Team 1 618, Team 2 613

High team series (scratch)

– Team 5 751, Team 1 667, Team 2 565

High team series (hdcp) – Team 5 1819, Team 2 1759, Team 1 1753

Boys' high game (scratch) – Parker Ramer 149, Kaden Young 100, Billy Bromenschenkel V 99

Boys' high game (hdcp) – Parker Ramer 233, Billy Bromenschenkel V 225, Kaden Young 219

Boys' high series (scratch) – Parker Ramer 371, Billy Bromenschenkel V 280, Kaden Young 252

Boys' high series (hdcp) – Billy Bromenschenkel V 658, Bentley Bejster 626, Parker Ramer 623

Girls' high game (scratch) – Gabby Diaz 99

Girls' high game (hdcp) – Gabby Diaz 235

Girls' high series (scratch) – Gabby Diaz 219

Girls' high series (hdcp) – Gabby Diaz 627

Elks 6 Youth League

Standings as of April 6 – 1. Team 1 29-27; 2. Team 3 20-36; 3. Team 2 4-52

Boys' high game (scratch) – Kooper Novak 177, Oliver Turner 167

Boys' high game (hdcp) – Oliver Turner 250, Kooper Novak 215

Boys' high series (scratch) – Kooper Novak 515, Oliver Turner 400

Boys' high series (hdcp) – Oliver Turner 649, Kooper Novak 629

Little 10 picks top hoops players

EARLVILLE – The Little Ten Conference boys' basketball coaches met to select the 2023 Little Ten All-Conference Boys Basketball Team. The 11 players recognized are:

• **Serena:** Conference Champs, Conference Tournament Champs, IHSA Class 1A Regional Champs – **Camden Figgins (Sr...G)—11.3 ppg, 2.9 rpg, 2.9 apg, 1.9 spg, 69% FT; Third Time All-Conference, Twice Unanimous; **Richie Armour (Jr...F)—10.8 ppg, 5.4 rpg, 1.0 apg, 76% FT, 56% FG; Braxton Hart (Sr...F)—6.9 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 2.2 apg, 1.7 spg, 76% FT

• **Hinckley-Big Rock:** Conference Runner-Up, Conference Tournament Runner-Up, IHSA Class 1A Regional Champs; **Ben Hintzsche (Sr...G)—12.5 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 3.4 apg, 1.2

spg; Repeat Unanimous Selection; **Martin Ledbetter (So...F)—15.8 ppg, 11.0 rpg, 1.0 spg, 1.0 bpg

• **Earlville:** Conference 3rd Place – **Garett Cook (Sr...G)—12.1 ppg, 5.6 rpg, 3.6 apg, 2.6 spg, 71% FT, 44% FG; Ryan Browder (Jr...F)—13.9 ppg, 7.5 rpg, 2.4 apg, 1.0 spg

• **Newark:** Conference Tournament 3rd Place – Zach Carlson (Sr...F)—15.4 ppg, 8.7 rpg, 1.7 apg, 1.9 spg, 1.0 bpg, 51% FG, Repeat Selection

• **IMSA:** **Bryce Sharp (Sr...F)—17.2 ppg, 10.1 rpg, 71.9% FT, 53.7% FG in conference games; Repeat Selection

• **Somonauk:** Carson Bahrey (Jr...G)—15.7 ppg, 4.1 rpg, 3.4 apg, 2.3 spg

• **Indian Creek:** **Jeffrey Probst (Jr...F)—17.5 ppg, 6.5 rpg, 1.3 spg

(**Denotes a unanimous selection)



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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Celeste Faber

LaMOILLE – Celeste Faber, 74, of LaMoille, passed away, April 9, 2023, in her home after battling Parkinson's Disease for over 20 years. She was surrounded by her husband, children and her caregiver of seven years, Carla Schlesinger.

Funeral services will be Friday, April 14, 2023 at 11 a.m. at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church on the Hill), Princeton with Rev. Wayne Derber officiating. Visitation will be Thursday, April 13 from 4-7 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota. Cremation rites will be accorded after the funeral and private burial will be at Clarion Cemetery at a later date.

Celeste was born March 2, 1949, in Mendota, to Clifford and Edith (Wagner) Bauer. She married Dennis Faber on June 27, 1970, at Zion Lutheran Church of Clarion.

She is survived by her husband Dennis of LaMoille; her son Byron (Michele) Faber of Beaverton, Ore.; her daughter Ashley (Jason) Ericksen of Downers Grove; brother Craig (Myra) Bauer of Sandwich; two sisters Connie Bauer and Christa (Ron) Davis, both of LaMoille; and three grandchildren, Aaron Ericksen, Violet Ericksen and Isaac Faber.

She was preceded in death by her parents and an infant son, Aaron Faber.

Celeste graduated from LaMoille High School and University of Illinois. After marrying her high school sweetheart, she became the choir conductor at Clarion Lutheran Church and later became the choir conductor



at St. John's Lutheran church in Mendota. After having her children, she began her career in music education and taught in numerous districts including LaMoille, Walnut and Tiskilwa over her 25-year teaching career. She was passionate about both church music and the numerous students she taught both vocally and instrumentally. Many friends and family will recall the countless concerts, performances, solos and ensembles she helped prepare musicians for. Some of her greatest works of love were the numerous "A Night With...." concerts she created where the St. John's (Mendota) choir and local musicians would showcase the works of a specific composer.

Celeste especially enjoyed traveling out west to see the Rocky Mountains, a love that began in her childhood, continued to her honeymoon in Estes Park and then to several trips with Dennis and her children. She and Dennis enjoyed experiencing the beauty of many national parks in the West including the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Glacier and Rocky Mountain national parks.

While Parkinson's Disease limited her teaching years and ability to travel, she continued to enjoy her home outside of LaMoille where she'd watch the birds from the porch, observe Dennis working in the yard or mowing the lawn, play with her three dogs and share laughs and stories with visiting friends and family. Over the years her faith was one of the most important parts of her life and she enjoyed sharing it and her musical talents with the congregation at St. John's Church on the Hill.

Memorials may be directed to LaMoille EMT or St. John's Lutheran Church on the Hill. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Participants preparing for this year's MIMIC Fair on April 19. (Photo contributed)

IVCC to hold MIMIC Fair on April 19th

OGLESBY – The public is welcome to attend the annual Illinois Valley Community College MIMIC Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 19 in room CTC-124.

MIMIC, Making Industry Meaningful in College, is a nationally recognized program exposing IVCC students to engineering design, electronics and business to design, manufacture, market and sell a product.

Dorene Data, co-developer of the project, said students emerge from the project with a much better understanding of career fields and of the entire business/industry prod-

uct development process.

Student teams, called "companies," simulate an industrial business structure, allowing students to experience a workplace environment in a classroom setting. This year's theme "Open House," features products that can be used around a home.

Products for sale include a pizza cutter, outdoor cup and phone holder, desktop fountain with bamboo, car cord organizer, keychains, chip clip holder, car garbage container, and bat house.

For information, contact Data at dorene_data@ivcc.edu.

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.

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THE BACK PAGE

Law enforcement to conduct distracted driving campaign

LEE COUNTY – In honor of Distracted Driving Awareness Month, the Lee County Sheriff's Office is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Police and more than 200 local law enforcement agencies to step up enforcement efforts across the state. Motorists can expect to see increased patrols and traffic safety enforcement zones throughout April. "Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of motor vehicle crashes on our roads today,"



said Chief Deputy Derek Ranken. "During Distracted Driving Awareness Month, law enforcement will boost enforcement efforts, stopping anyone who is texting and driving. Remember, if you have a phone in one hand, you can expect a ticket in the other." In Illinois, using your phone in anything other than handsfree mode is not only dangerous, it's illegal. Drop it and drive. The Illinois distracted driving campaign is funded with federal traffic safety funds administered by IDOT.

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Monday & Wednesday: \$5 margaritas!

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POLICE BLOTTER

DRUG CHARGES

Kim K. Daul, 66, of 1651 William Way, Mendota, was charged with possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, possession of a controlled substance and suspended registration after a traffic stop at First Avenue and Fourth Street at 6:40 p.m. April 5. A passenger in the vehicle, Angela K. Ultch, 56, of 202 Cherry St. Apt. C4, Mendota, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. Daul was transported to the LaSalle County jail. Ultch was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Mitchell J. Male, 40, of LaSalle, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at 12th Street and Third Avenue at 6:36 a.m. April 6. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Anna C. Sexton, 32, of 905 Carolyn St., Mendota, was arrested at 11 a.m. April 7 on a valid Lee County warrant for failure to ap-

pear/contempt of court. The subject posted bond and was released with a Lee County court date.

SUSPENDED LICENSE, WEAPONS CHARGE

Stephen H. Marlin, 57, of Miller, Mo., was charged with driving while license suspended and unlawful use of weapons after a traffic stop at 12th Street and Third Avenue at 11:23 p.m. April 9. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

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Burn Ordinance

MENDOTA – It is unlawful to burn any materials other than small and dried quantities of branches, leaves, weeds or grass at any time. The burning of any material such as rubber, tires, leather, tar paper, old batteries or any material that emits an offensive odor when burned is unlawful within the city limits of Mendota.

Limited amounts of yard waste material may be burned provided the material is dry and does not create an offensive odor, nuisance or fire hazard due to excessive high winds. Combustible yard waste material may be kindled from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays only. All fires must be constantly tended by a competent person, until such fire is properly extinguished. The continued smoldering of slow-burning combustible yard waste after 4 p.m. is a nuisance and anyone kindling such a fire that will emit obnoxious odors after 4 p.m. will be considered performing an unlawful act. Burning on Sunday by commercial establishments shall be considered an unlawful act.

Incinerator 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.
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HOME IMPROVEMENT



Certain projects offer a stronger return on investment than others, and that's a significant consideration for homeowners thinking of selling their homes.

Exterior renovations that boast the best ROI

Remodeling with a return on investment in mind can be a smart strategy for homeowners, whether one is thinking about moving in the next few months or further down the road. Though this approach is an inexact science, in many instances, it's savvy for homeowners to consider what buyers may want when planning home improvements.

Homeowners may be surprised to learn which renovations garner the best ROI at resale. The home loan and refinancing company RenoFi indicates that overall home improvement projects provide a 70 percent ROI on average. Many high-ROI projects add functional space and improvement. The following are some exterior renovations that help homeowners recoup the most money at resale, according to Remodeling magazine's "2022 Cost vs. Value Report."

1. Garage Door Replacement: 93.3 percent recouped of \$4,041 cost
2. Manufactured Stone Veneer: 91.4 percent recouped of \$11,066 cost
3. Siding replacement (Fiber Cement): 68.3 percent recouped of \$22,093 cost
4. Window replacement (Vinyl): 67.5 percent recouped of \$20,482 cost
5. Siding replacement (Vinyl): 67.2 percent recouped of \$18,662 cost
6. Window replacement (Wood): 66.3 percent recouped of \$24,388 cost

7. Deck addition (Wood): 64.8 percent recouped of \$19,248 cost
8. Entry Door Replacement (Steel): 63.8 percent recouped of \$2,206 cost

The majority of renovations on Remodeling magazine's list of the best investments are exterior renovations, making this area of a home a particular point of interest for homeowners. The only interior project that cracked the Top 10 ROI for projects was a minor midrange kitchen remodel.

Exterior renovations perhaps add the most bang for your buck because they're not only functional, but also because they add immediate curb appeal. Much in the way it has been said people eat with their eyes first — which is why chefs spend so much time on elaborate plating — buyers will judge a property by how it looks when they arrive, even before they've stepped inside a home. In essence, home buyers often judge a book by its cover. A worn exterior may indicate to potential buyers that the home was not maintained, however false that assumption may be.

It's important for homeowners to consider all factors before beginning a renovation. Certain projects offer a stronger return on investment than others, and that's a significant consideration for homeowners thinking of selling their homes.

The many styles of front doors

A grand entryway simply wouldn't be complete without an impressive front door. A front door can dazzle guests and create a homeowner's desired vibe before anyone even steps inside, which only underscores how important the choice of door style can be.

When shopping around for a new front door for their homes, homeowners can consider the many popular styles as they seek to choose one that fits an existing scheme or use a new front door as a springboard to a redesigned home interior.

- Farmhouse: Farmhouse doors are not all one and the same. Traditional farmhouse doors provide a rustic look that's become popular in home decor over the last decade or so. Modern farmhouse doors are a little less rustic because they incorporate more contemporary elements into their design. Each option is ideal for homeowners who aspire to create a farmhouse vibe in their home interiors and exteriors.

- Modern: Modern front doors tend to boast a bold look and many are made up of large glass panels. Some homeowners prefer modern front doors because the glass in them allows lots of natural light into their home's interior. The added light in the entryway appeals to homeowners who want to brighten up these spaces, which tend to be dark in homes with more traditional doors.

- Traditional: Traditional front doors may be the most recognizable to today's homeowners. Often solid wood but sometimes enhanced with



When shopping around for a new front door for their homes, homeowners can consider the many popular styles.

glass, traditional doors may feature subtle, yet ornate designs. Traditional front doors might feel out of place in modern or rustic homes, so they're generally best suited to homes with owners that prefer more traditional decor inside their homes.

- Custom: It's important that homeowners recognize they need not pigeonhole themselves into a particular design style for their front doors. Custom front doors may be costly, but many door manufacturers or contractors customize front doors. Custom doors

may suit homeowners' with unique ideas about decor, and some can even mimic other popular styles while still featuring subtle differences. For example, homeowners can request an arched double door that, while unique, features many of the same qualities that characterize traditional doors, including ornate designs.

A front door can greatly influence the first impression people get of a home. That makes it worth homeowners' time and effort to explore the many different front door styles now available.

Vinyl siding can be painted

Vinyl siding is not something that many homeowners may consider painting, but it can be done. However, some contractors may not recommend it as the best option to overhaul a home. Painting siding means it will only be as durable as the paint used. It's also essential to determine if painting vinyl will void any warranties. Wood or engineered wood or fiber cement siding tend to be better options than vinyl should you want to switch colors down the line. But vinyl siding can be painted if it is done right, and it can be an affordable way to change the look of a home without investing in new siding. According to Benjamin Moore Paints, vinyl siding that will be painted will need to be cleaned thoroughly, including the removal of any mildew, chalk or dirt, to enhance paint adhesion. Pitted or porous vinyl siding always must be primed, but others may not require priming. Choose an



exterior paint designed for painting on vinyl. Benjamin Moore has a palette called Colors for Vinyl that can be used in select exterior paint lines. Two coats of paint are recommended. According to BobVila.com, paint for vinyl has acrylic and urethane

resins that accommodate the expansion and contraction of vinyl and help the paint stick. Also, for the best results, the home improvement experts on the site advise painting when temperatures are mild and there is low relative humidity and an overcast sky.



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Signs a home exterior is in need of updating

- Dated entry door: Many

Updating a home's exterior can restore curb appeal and help homeowners feel better about their properties.



Installing uplighting beneath kitchen cabinets is an inexpensive way to give a kitchen a new look.

Quick, easy ways to give your kitchen a new look

- **Install under-cabinet lighting.** Another inexpensive way to give a kitchen a new look is to install under-cabinet lighting. Under-cabinet lighting serves both an aesthetic and practical purpose. From a purely aesthetic standpoint, under-cabinet lighting can make a kitchen feel more warm and keep the kitchen illuminated when meals aren't being prepared and homeowners don't want to have their overhead lights on but still want to be able to navigate the kitchen safely. During

Kitchen remodels can break the bank. But there's a host of budget-friendly ways for cost-conscious homeowners to revitalize these popular spaces in their homes.

The cost of a kitchen remodel won't be cheap. The typical cost of such a project in the United States is between \$13,000 and \$38,000. But the good news is that there are many quick and easy, not to mention less expensive, ways to give a kitchen a new look.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

Must-have items for summer entertaining in the backyard

Summer entertaining season provides ample opportunities to soak up some sun and have some fun with family and friends. Backyard barbecues and other get-togethers at home are even more fun when hosts ensure they have certain must-have items for summer soirees.

- **Fire features:** The days when summer hosts only needed a few extra lawn chairs and some burgers and hot dogs on the grill for a backyard barbecue are long gone. Though those items still have a place at backyard barbecues, summer parties have taken a step up. Fire features, whether it's a standalone fire pit, one built into a patio or a gas-powered fire table, are now wildly popular. Fire features provide a welcome place to relax and converse with guests after the sun goes down. And much to kids' delight, a fire feature also paves the way for some post-meal s'mores.

- **Insulated wine cooler:** Coolers are great places to store water, soda, beer, seltzers, and other popular beverages. But what about wine? An insulated wine cooler ensures wine stays properly cooled but doesn't get too cold, which can happen when wine is stored in a more traditional cooler filled with ice. Bottles are simply placed in the insulated cooler (much like canned beverages slide easily into can koozies), and the bottle can be kept on the table much like you would for formal dinners indoors. Hosts can go the extra mile by pairing insulated wine tumblers with their wine cooler.

- **Games:** Summer entertaining season might be all about relaxation, but games can up the fun factor at backyard gatherings.

Cornhole is a wildly popular game, and customized cornhole boards can help hosts come across as party professionals. Ladder toss, bocce and wiffle ball are some additional games that can make the festivities more fun. Hosts who don't have a pool also can invest in an inflatable pool big enough to fit all the kids who will be coming to the party.

- **Outdoor storage cabinet:** Hosts can save themselves the stress and effort of walking in and out for dinnerware and other table accessories by investing in a sturdy outdoor storage cabinet. As meal time draws near, hosts will appreciate that all the plates, napkins, utensils, and placemats are already outside. The top of the storage cabinet can double as a small but convenient buffet station for sides that aren't being cooked over an open flame.

- **Projector and screen:** A projector and screen can really up the ante on summer entertaining, turning a backyard barbecue into a great place to watch a game or cuddle up after dinner for a movie night under the stars. Projectors and screens won't bust the budget, but those who have more to spend may want to consider an outdoor television. Outdoor televisions are built to handle the glare of the summer sun, but a retractable awning may be a good safety net for hosts who plan to spend many a weekend afternoon outside watching games or movies with family and friends.

These are just a handful of items that can up the ante on traditional backyard barbecues. Homeowners should know that there's no limit to the number of items that can make summer entertaining season more special.



Backyard barbecues and other get-togethers at home are even more fun when hosts ensure they have certain must-have items for summer soirees.

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ATTENTION

The following **City of Mendota Ordinances** may be helpful to citizens planning their home & yard improvements & maintenance this spring & summer:

BUILDING PERMIT: The Building & Zoning office is located in City Hall. Building permits are required for all new residences, building additions, decks, fences, sheds, gazebos, porches, signs, commercial remodeling & demolition of buildings. Please check with the Building Inspector, (815)539-9111 prior to beginning any construction or if you question whether or not you need a building permit.

BURNING: Only small amounts of yard waste may be burned Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 10am-4pm. The Mendota Burn Pit is located at 1203 S. 7th Ave. The burn pit is available Monday 3pm-6pm, Tuesday 10am-1pm, closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10am-1pm, Friday 10am-1pm & Saturday 10am-1pm. Closed on Sunday.

GRASS: When mowing, it is illegal to throw grass clippings into the street. It is a potential storm sewer blockage problem. It is also a violation to have grass growing 6 inches or higher.

ANIMALS: Every owner of a dog or cat is required to pay a license fee of \$5.00 before May 31st. The license will be issued upon providing evidence that the animal is immunized against rabies. After May 31st, a \$10.00 late fee will be added to the license fee. Persons with new dogs or cats acquired during the fiscal year or those persons new to the community will be eligible for the \$5.00 basic fee.

WATER BILLS: Water Bills are mailed on the first day of each month, and are due on the 15th. Automatic debits can be arranged; call the City Clerk's office.

PET WASTE: All pet owners/keepers are required to immediately and properly dispose of solid waste deposited on any property, public or private, not owned or possessed by that person. Any owner/keeper who requires the use of a disability assistance animal shall be exempt while such animal is being used for that purpose. Any person(s) who is found to have violated the provisions of the ordinance shall be subject to a fine of no less than \$25 and no more than \$75.

GARAGE SALES: Permits are not required at this time.

For more information on
City Ordinances, please contact the
Mendota City Clerk's Office at
800 Washington St., Mendota
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HOME IMPROVEMENT

How to spot mold in your home

Homes are safe havens and relaxing spaces for their residents. No one wants to imagine the place they call home putting their health in jeopardy, but that's precisely the case for people who live in homes where mold is present.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency notes that molds are not usually a problem indoors. However, when they are, molds produce allergens, irritants and potentially toxic substances. Molds can become problematic when spores land on wet or damp surfaces and begin growing. If inhaled, those spores can cause allergic reactions in people with asthma who have mold allergies. Even people without such allergies may suffer from irritated eyes, skin, nose, throat, or lungs due to exposure to mold. Mold also can affect the home itself, as the EPA notes that mold gradually destroys the things it grows on, potentially leading to costly remediation and renovation expenses.

Mold is sometimes visible in parts of a home. For example, mold problems in a bathroom may be recognizable when tiny black spots are present on surfaces that frequently get wet. Those areas may gradually expand from small spots and cover larger areas, such as windowsills and areas around the bathtub. Other signs indicating the presence of mold may be less recognizable though potentially just as harmful. That's one reason why it makes sense for everyone to learn how to spot mold in a home.

• Learn what mold looks like. Not all molds are black. Some are white and look like thread, but they also can have a gray-brown or gray-green tint. When peeling old



Molds can become problematic when spores land on wet or damp surfaces and begin growing.

wallpaper, some people may notice orange, pink or purple growth on the newly exposed walls, and that's likely mold.

• Identify problems with paint. If paint is peeling, bubbling or cracking, it's likely indicative of a mold issue. In such instances, contact a mold remediation specialist rather than simply painting over the affected areas with a fresh coat of paint.

• Conduct a smell test. Most molds will emit a damp, musty odor. However, a lack of this distinct and unpleasant smell should not lead individuals to conclude they don't have a mold issue, as some molds do not produce

an odor. In addition, the EPA notes that the smell of indoor molds can differ depending on the type of mold present in the home. Homeowners who have experienced mold issues in the past should not ignore a foul odor simply because it smells different from a previous infestation. Contact a mold remediation professional if you suspect an unpleasant smell could be a byproduct of mold.

Mold can be harmful to homes and humans. Anyone who suspects their home has a mold problem is urged to contact a remediation specialist as soon as possible.



Landscape lighting is worth exploring for homeowners looking to upgrade their properties.

What to know about landscape lighting

Home improvement trends come and go, and one trend that has become wildly popular in recent years is recognizable in yards every night. Landscape lighting has transformed how people see and enjoy their properties at night, making it one of the more sought-after upgrades among modern homeowners.

Curb appeal is often seen through the lens of how homes appear during daylight hours, but landscape lighting can make homes look better and more modern, and potentially safer, after the sun goes down. With such potential, landscape lighting is worth exploring for homeowners looking to upgrade their properties.

Are there different types of landscape lighting?

When considering landscape lighting, homeowners should know that there are various options to consider. According to the lighting experts at Lumens, spotlights project a concentrated and narrow beam of light that's usually around 45 degrees. Spotlights are often chosen to highlight specific features on a property, like a component of the landscaping. Individuals who want to cast light over wider, more general areas may consider floodlights, which Lumens

notes spread light up to 120 degrees.

Inground lighting is among the more sophisticated landscape lighting options. Lumens notes that inground lighting illuminates the whole of a tree or structure, often creating a dramatic look. These circle-shaped lights also are great at illuminating walkways and driveways.

Post lights are another outdoor lighting option, and these are often used to light up long walkways and pathways so it's easier and safer to navigate dark areas at night.

Is landscape lighting a job a DIYer can handle?

Many homeowners consider a do-it-yourself approach when pondering a potential home renovation, and a landscape lighting project is likely to inspire such curiosity as well. The home experts at HGTV note that the feasibility of DIY in regard to a landscape lighting project depends on the type of lighting homeowners want to install and where they want to install it. Replacing an existing electrical fixture may be well within the skill of a seasoned DIYer, but installing a new fixture is a job best left to the professionals. Homeowners whose homes currently have no or very

little landscape lighting are almost certainly better off working with a professional. Solar lighting that does not require any electrical work can be installed quickly and easily by anyone, but such options may not provide the look homeowners are aiming for.

How much lighting is necessary?

The amount of lighting homeowners want to install is up to them. If the homeowner currently has little or no landscape lighting, a consultation with a professional can help to determine how much lighting to install and where to install it. When discussing landscape lighting, homeowners may want to inquire about dimmers. Dimmers can increase or decrease lighting depending on the situation. For example, homeowners may want a little extra light during a party, but less when relaxing alone outside at night. Dimmers allow homeowners to adjust as necessary.

Landscape lighting is a popular home renovation trend. Homeowners considering adding landscape lighting to their property are urged to work with a skilled professional to devise and install a set-up that makes their homes more appealing at night.

Making Home Improvement Plans?



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Did you know? -Indoor spaces outdoors

A recent survey of home renovation industry professionals conducted by Fixr.com found that creating indoor spaces outdoors was homeowners' biggest priority regarding renovations in 2022. Sixty-two percent of renovation-minded homeowners surveyed indicated outdoor dining areas are their most sought-after living space. In addition, 41 percent of respondents felt outdoor kitchens were their biggest priority. The survey found that certain outdoor living space features were especially popular, none more so than comfortable outdoor furniture. Firepits, outdoor fireplaces, swimming pools, hot tubs, and outdoor connectivity were some additional popular features among homeowners focused on their outdoor living spaces.



HOME IMPROVEMENT



Spring cleaning season has arrived, and certain tips can make the job more efficient and manageable.

Spring cleaning pointers

Spring is a season of renewal. When the flowers are blooming and the trees are budding and the weather is pleasantly warm, people often feel inspired to make changes around their homes. Work may begin with culling belongings and organizing essentials.

There is debate regarding where the practice of “spring cleaning” originated. Some researchers link it to certain religious groups. It has long been an ancient Jewish custom to thoroughly clean a house in preparation for the springtime feast of Passover. The house is scoured to remove any yeast bread, or chametz, from the home. Similarly, members of the Greek Orthodox church celebrate “Clean Week,” which is a week of cleaning before Lent. In Iranian culture, families spend days cleaning prior to the Persian New Year, which begins on the spring equinox.

Spring cleaning also has some secular roots. For instance, in the 1800s, Londoners routinely cleared their homes of grime and soot that accumulated over the winter.

Spring cleaning is still a ritual for many today. As people embark on their plans to tidy up, these tips can help them along.

Tackle one big task a day

Who hasn’t started one project only to be distracted into moving along to another room? This often occurs when people discover something out of place in one space and then move that item where it belongs, only to find a new cleaning task at hand in that space. Inefficiency can make you give up on spring cleaning prematurely. Agree to address one room/task a day. Keep a basket or

box handy to store errant items until you move on to the next room.

Stock up on supplies

Prepare all of the cleaning supplies in advance. Put together a tool kit of sorts with the equipment you need, including mops, brooms, rags, cleansers, and the like. Organization can keep you on course.

Harness your strengths and weaknesses

Some people clean because they are stressed or angry, others do so to avoid other tasks. Keep personality in mind when establishing a cleaning schedule. For example, clean at night if you’re a night owl, or wait until you are feeling antsy before embarking on a “calm down cleaning.”

Tackle seasonal chores first

Some tasks need to get done to prepare for the spring and summer season. These may include cleaning the grill and sorting through outdoor furniture and decor. Spring cleaning may involve readying the pool for another year of use, or cleaning out rain gutters to prepare for spring storms. Tackle time-dependent tasks first and then move on to others that are less time-sensitive.

Spread out the work

Some people like to devote full weekends to spring cleaning, but that can be overwhelming for others. Breaking down cleaning tasks into 15- to 30-minute intervals each day can make the job more tolerable.

Spring cleaning season has arrived, and certain tips can make the job more efficient and manageable.

How to prepare soil for spring planting

Spring is a season of rejuvenation, and perhaps nowhere is that rebirth more noticeable than in the yard. Each spring, grass begins to grow again as inviting landscapes beckon people outdoors.

Extra sunlight and rising temperatures make spring a great time to plant flowers, grasses and trees. To ensure successful planting, homeowners must take steps to prepare the soil. Healthy soil can provide the ideal conditions for roots to take hold, helping plants establish themselves before potentially harsh summer conditions arrive. Preparing soil might seem like an extensive job, but a simple approach may be all that’s necessary to create conditions that promote plant growth this spring.

• Clean up the previous months’ mess. Whether homeowners live in regions marked by year-round warmth or places where winter typically features heavy snowfall, it’s a good idea to clean up an area prior to spring planting. Fallen leaves, rocks, grass clippings, and other debris can contribute to compacted soil that makes it hard for plants to establish strong, healthy root systems. Clear away any debris prior to planting before taking the next step in your soil preparation routine.

• Loosen the soil. Once debris has been cleared away, loosen the soil. Depending on the size of the area where you’ll be planting, you may need to invest in tools like a shovel, spade, spading fork, and/or a lawn edger. If you’re planting in a small



area, such as a deck planter box that still has soil from last year’s planting inside it, you can either clean the box and replace the soil entirely or dig around with a hand-held trowel, cultivator and/or weeder. It’s important to loosen all of the soil around where you will ultimately plant prior to planting to ensure water can reach the roots and help them establish themselves once planting is completed.

• Test and, if necessary, amend the soil. A simple pH test can help determine the acidity or alkalinity of the soil. This is an important step as soil that is too acidic or alkaline can decrease the availability of nutrients the plants will

need to thrive. In addition to conducting a pH test, which can be purchased at little cost at a local home improvement store, homeowners can contact their local Cooperative Extension Service to test their soil quality. These tests will reveal soil pH, but also can shed light on the texture of the soil and other components. Once the test is conducted, the local Coop Extension Service may recommend amendments to improve the nutritional quality of the soil so new plants can thrive.

Soil conditions go a long way toward determining if new plants will thrive. Preparing the soil prior to spring planting can ensure a successful season.



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Did you know? -Drains

Drains and other high-suction components in pools and spas can be dangerous. That is why the United States Congress passed the Title XIV Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, which was named after the granddaughter of Secretary of State James A. Baker, III. Virginia lost her life in a family spa suction entrapment during a birthday party. Federal law now requires that all pools and spa drains that were manufactured, distributed or sold on or after December 19, 2008 must meet ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 requirements. In addition, public pools and spas must be retrofitted with covers that meet safety standards. The purpose of drain covers is to prevent the powerful suction of the spa or pool drain from forming a complete seal that can cause a person’s hair or body to be trapped against the drain. Such a situation may result in drowning or even disembowelment, in the event of buttock entrapment. In 1993, a five-year-old-girl named Valerie Lakey experienced evisceration of her small and large intestines when her bottom became pinned to the drain of a kiddie pool. Swimmers should exercise caution to steer clear of any drains, and covers should be checked for safety periodically.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Life-changing hope for the wounded soul

The most important message I can ever share with people is that God loves them and has good plans for them through life in Christ. We all need to have a revelation about God's love for us, because until we do, we'll struggle to have true, lasting love, joy and peace in our everyday lives.

The world is full of heartbroken people, who have been mistreated or abused in some way. And they're pretending to be okay, desperately hoping other people will think they've got it all together. The truth is, none of us are perfect, and we all go through hard times and

get hurt by someone or something. It's astounding the hurtful things people can do to others, but it has helped me to understand that hurting people hurt people. And many times when people abuse others, they are acting out of their own pain, so it goes on from generation to generation.

But I have good news: If you've been hurt in the past, you don't have to spend your life being miserable, angry, bitter, resentful or full of self-pity, hurting others. Through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, you can receive complete healing in your

soul—your mind, will and emotions. God can restore your life and make it better than it was before you were wounded.

Going Through the Healing Process

I know what it's like to hurt so much you don't think you can stand it anymore and you feel hopeless about the future. For most of my childhood, my father abused me and I never knew growing up what it was like to feel safe, secure and loved. As a result, I became an angry, suspicious, critical, judgmental adult.

When I left home at 18, I thought I was leaving my problems behind me, but I came to realize there were many problems in my soul because of the abuse I had endured. I desperately needed the healing love of God to restore my life.

Isaiah 61:1-3 (NKJV) says Jesus came "to preach good tidings to the poor...to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn...to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness..."

Thank God for His promise to heal the brokenhearted, comfort those who mourn, and set



the captives free! Now, I'm not going to tell you it's easy to go through the healing process; it takes time, diligence in studying the Word, and lots of prayer to walk out the healing that is yours by virtue of the blood of Christ. But as believers in Jesus, we have the authority of His name to overcome sin and access the power of God in our lives so we can experience the promises in His Word.

And the promises of God belong to anyone who is born again!

Making the Divine Exchange

When we come into a relationship with Christ, a divine exchange happens. He takes our sin and the messes in our lives and gives us His righteousness, peace and joy (see Romans 14:17). He gives us joy for mourning, beauty for ashes, praise instead of depression, forgiveness instead of blame, righteousness instead of guilt, hope instead of despair...and on and on. All we have to do is give up our ashes and receive God's beauty.

A good place to start is admitting you need God's help. It's okay to

not be okay—God helps the humble! (See 1 Peter 5:5-7.) We need to pray, "I love You, Lord, and I appreciate my salvation, but I am a mess! I want the truth in Your Word to set me free from deception, the bondage of sin, and pain in my soul. Please help me... open my eyes in any area where I am deceived and teach me Your truth."

Then we need to commit ourselves to study the Word and grow in our faith in Christ. As we renew our minds according to the Word, we will trust God more completely and believe what He says more than what others say to us, more than our feelings, and more than our circumstances. That's when we live in His beauty...filled with His love, free from the prison of our past, and healed in our soul.

I want to encourage you today to humble yourself before God and take Him at His Word. He loves you more than you can comprehend, and He wants you to be free to walk in His good plans for your life. Take time every day to study His Word, pray and cast your cares on Him because

He cares about you and wants what is best for you. When you do, you'll find that life becomes a beautiful, wonderful, amazing journey!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's teaching resource *Healing the Soul of a Woman Action Plan*. 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 *LOVING PEOPLE WHO ARE HARD TO LOVE* (FaithWords). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Jane Fonda, 85, finally fulfilled her wish to be a warrior queen when she voiced the Warrior Queen of the Seven Seas in the computer-animated, coming-of-age fantasy "Ruby Gillman: Teenage Kraken," due June 30. She'll first hit movie screens May 12 in "Book Club: The Next Chapter," with Diane Keaton, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen. Hopefully, it will be more successful than "80 for Brady," which, despite having the star power of Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Sally Field, Rita Moreno and Tom Brady, cost \$28 million and grossed just under \$40 million.

Twenty-three years ago, "Gladiator" won Oscars for Best Picture, Best Actor (Russell Crowe), Best Visual Effects, Best Sound and Best Costume Design. Now, director Ridley Scott, 85, is finally making his sequel. This time, it'll star Irish actor Paul Mescal (who received an Oscar nomination for Best Actor this year for "Aftersun") and "Banshees Of Inisherin" Best

Supporting Actor nominee Barry Keoghan. (Keoghan's up next in "Saltburn," with Rosamund Pike, Jacob Elordi and Carey Mulligan.) Add Denzel Washington (up next in "The Equalizer 3," due Sept. 1) to the mix, which will reteam him with Scott, his "American Gangster" director.

You can also expect a Gladiator-style series that is currently in the works, starring Anthony Hopkins, and also a reboot of Starz's "Spartacus" series.

Russell Crowe is back with a vengeance, with "The Pope's Exorcist" (due April 14), co-starring Franco Nero. Crowe also has "Kraven the Hunter," with Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Ariana DeBose due October 6, as well as two films still awaiting release dates -- first is "The Georgetown Project," with Sam Worthington, David Hyde Pierce and Karen Gillan. The second film is "Sleeping Dogs," also with Gillan, who will star as Nebula in the upcoming "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3," releasing May 5.

Cheech & Chong were way ahead of their time when they made the pro-marijuana film "Up in Smoke" (1978) for a mere \$2 million, which grossed a whopping \$104 million. Now 76, Cheech Marin has made about 80 films and starred in many TV series, including "Nash Bridges" (1996-2001). Tommy Chong, now 84, has made 21 films and about a hundred TV appearances. But now, the comedy duo are the subjects of an upcoming biopic. What could be more timely?

Before winning an Oscar for Best Actress for "Everything Everywhere All at Once," Michelle Yeoh was already the busiest actress in Hollywood. June 9 brings just her voice in "Transformers: Rise of the Beasts," while Sept. 15 brings "A Haunting In Venice," with Kenneth Branagh, Jamie Dornan and Tina Fey.

Yeoh's also lending her voice to "The Tiger's Apprentice" and starring as Madame Morrible in "Wicked: Part One," due November 2024, and "Wicked: Part Two," due in 2025.

Couch Theater

"The Last Thing He Told Me" (TV-MA) -- A new limited series premiering April 14 follows the story of a woman named Hannah, who is married to a man named Owen and has become stepmother to Owen's only daughter, Bailey. One day, Hannah suddenly receives a letter from Owen that instructs her to protect Bailey; then Owen subsequently goes missing. Bailey reveals to Hannah that she was also left a note and a bag full of thousands of dollars, presumably from Owen. From then on, the mother-and-daughter duo stop at nothing to find out the truth of his mysterious disappearance. Jennifer Garner, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau ("Game of Thrones") and Angourie Rice (the "Spider-Man" trilogy) star in this riveting series. New episodes release every Friday. (AppleTV+)

"Florida Man" (TV-MA) -- Philly ex-cop Mike Valentine (Edgar Ramirez) has lost everything in his life to gambling. So, to pay off

all his debt, Mike begins working for the gangster he owes all his money to ... which blurs more lines than one. When the gangster's girlfriend, Delly (who Mike is also fond of), escapes to Florida, Mike is forced to go retrieve her. But he has only one condition: All his debt is cleared once he brings Delly back. Reluctantly returning to his seedy home state, Mike attempts to find Delly, but he hits a few bumps in the road that turn his quick rescue into a chaotic, action-packed series of events. This seven-episode crime show produced by Jason Bateman premieres April 13. (Netflix)

"Tiny Beautiful Things" (TV-MA) -- In this new series based on the book of the same name by Cheryl Strayed, Kathryn Hahn ("Bad Moms") stars as Clare, a writer persuaded to start an advice column. But Clare wonders ... can someone really give good advice while their life is falling apart? Her marriage is in a rough place, and her bond with her teenage

daughter seems to challenge her more and more every day. But, once Clare begins writing and speaking to her audience as if they were the 22-year-old version of herself, she finds powerful healing. The first episode of "Tiny Beautiful Things" is out now. (Hulu)

"Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies" (NR) -- The original 1978 "Grease" film is one of the most iconic movies in history. "Grease 2" was released a few years later in 1982, but it did nowhere near as well as the first film. So, will a prequel spin-off series pick up steam? Taking place four years before the events of the first film, this musical series follows four Rydell High students as they band together to create the all-female clique known as the Pink Ladies. With tons of visually appealing musical numbers and teenage naivety, it does well to capture the charming essence of "Grease." The first episode is out now. (Paramount+)

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Who is the tall blonde woman who is one of the hosts of "The Talk"? Also, what happened to Sara Gilbert? Are any of the current hosts part of the original group? -- **H.A.**



A: "The Talk" is a live syndicated CBS talk show originally created by Sara Gilbert ("Roseanne," "The Conners") back in 2010. She was one of the original hosts, along with five other women: Julie Chen, Sharon Osbourne, Marissa Jaret Winokur, Holly Robinson Peete and Leah Remini. Gilbert left in 2019, but remains executive producer. None of the current hosts were part of the six who debuted, and the current roster includes two men, Jerry O'Connell and Akbar Gbaja-Biamila.

Former NBC "Today" show host Natalie Morales joined "The Talk" in 2021, along with Amanda Kloots. Kloots is a former Broadway star and dancer of the Rockettes. She's listed as 5 feet 8 inches tall, but with heels,

she appears taller. Sadly, before getting her big break with "The Talk," she lost her husband, Tony-Award-nominated actor Nick Cordero, to COVID after a three-month battle in the hospital. Sheryl Underwood, a former stand-up comedian, remains the veteran of the show, having joined in 2011.

Q: Whatever happened to Annette Bening? Is she still married to actor Warren Beatty? -- **K.H.**

A: Before George Clooney, Warren Beatty was considered Hollywood's most sought-after bachelor. Both actors are still married to their wives, Beatty and Bening since 1992. A year before their wedding, Bening earned her first of four Oscar nominations in "The Grifters," and she's far from retiring. In 2022, she appeared in two films: "Death on the Nile," with Kenneth Branagh, and "Jerry & Marge Go Large," with Bryan Cranston.

Next up for Bening is "Poolman," which is written, directed by and stars Chris Pine, followed by the upcoming TV miniseries "Apples Never Fall," with Alison Brie.

She'll also star alongside

Jodie Foster in "Nyad," based on the true story of a 64-year-old woman who, 10 years ago, aimed to be the first woman to swim from Cuba to Florida.

Q: I was surprised to see that Edge is back wrestling with the WWE. Didn't he suffer a neck injury in real life? -- **L.H.**

A: Adam Copeland, best known as his WWE professional wrestling character Edge, returned to the ring in 2020 during the Royal Rumble. This was 11 years after leaving the sport to undergo surgery on his cervical spine.

According to the "Daily Star," the 49-year-old Copeland states that he doesn't want to overstay his welcome and wants this run to help. "I don't want to hinder," he expressed. He says his wife, WWE wrestler Beth Phoenix, will be sure to tell him when "it's time" to retire permanently.

Copeland has a less risky career to fall back on with acting, having recurred on the popular History Channel series "Vikings" for several years. Next up, he'll play Ares (aka the Greek God of War) in the upcoming Disney+ series "Percy Jackson and the Olympians."

• Trivia Test •

1. TELEVISION: What is the name of the president in the drama "West Wing"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. state shares the same name as one of the Great Lakes?
3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What are the ZIP codes assigned to the president and first lady?
4. LANGUAGE: What is cryptophasia?
5. MOVIES: What is the number on top of the bus in the movie "Speed"?
6. LITERATURE: What is the setting for Dashiell Hammett's novel "The Maltese Falcon"?
7. ANATOMY: Which two parts of the human body contain the most bones?
8. U.S. STATES: In which state would you find the Grand Teton National Park?
9. AD SLOGANS: Which pop-

ular product uses the slogan, "Is it in you?"?

10. FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient of baba ganoush?

Answers

1. Josiah "Jed" Bartlet.
2. Michigan.
3. 20500-0001 and 20500-0002.
4. A language developed by twins that only the two children can understand.
5. 2525.
6. San Francisco.
7. More than half the bones are in the hands and feet, 27 in each hand and 26 in each foot.
8. Wyoming.
9. Gatorade.
10. Eggplant.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Faux pas
- 5 Spider's creation
- 8 Smith of Fox News
- 12 Wood strip
- 13 Hollywood's Gardner
- 14 Model Banks
- 15 Twistable cookie
- 16 "Wonder Woman" star
- 18 Reproductive cell
- 20 Old Geo models
- 21 Conceal, in a way
- 23 Zodiac cat
- 24 When a sporting event starts
- 28 Pvt.'s superiors
- 31 Historic period
- 32 Open a tooth-paste tube
- 34 Consume
- 35 Beige
- 37 Floral wreaths
- 39 Mao -- tung
- 41 Coaster
- 42 Three-note chords
- 45 Doohickey
- 49 Hood
- 51 Roof overhang
- 52 "Got it"
- 53 French article
- 54 Pitcher Nolan
- 55 Waller or Domino
- 56 Inlet
- 57 Transmit
- 6 Ms. Longoria
- 7 Lip soother
- 8 Iowa and Maine, e.g.
- 9 Lightest element
- 10 Slangy suffix
- 11 Bits of butter
- 17 Solidify
- 19 Ballet wear
- 22 Community gym sites
- 24 "Goshi!"
- 25 Lob's path
- 26 Strict task-master
- 27 Tea choice
- 29 Wee bit
- 30 Map lines (Abbr.)
- 33 Entreaty
- 36 Applications
- 38 Venomous snakes
- 40 Mag. staff
- 42 End-of-wk. cry
- 43 Tabula --
- 44 Ticket half
- 46 "Mercy Mercy Me" singer
- 47 Novelist
- 48 Look after
- 50 Disney deer

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Member
FDIC

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FIRST STATE BANK

Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* An anonymous Middle Eastern prince donated \$500,000 for Hurricane Sandy relief in exchange for a 15-minute meeting with actress Kristen Stewart.

* The creators of Dragon's Lair used Playboy magazines to create the princess.

* After more than six decades of separation, differences in the language have developed between South and North Korea. This leads to hardship for North Korean defectors after they escape, because they have to relearn their language.

* That distinctive odor of pool water usually described as the smell of chlorine is actually chloramines, which are released when chlorine reacts with human sweat, oil or urine.

* A snake's heart can move around its body to protect it from harm when the snake has eaten a large prey.

* When is a kiss not just a kiss? Ask the fellow who, in 2010, bypassed security at the Newark Airport to smooch his girlfriend goodbye. The entire terminal was shut down for seven hours and the gentleman became known as "Airport Romeo."

* Around 20 million years ago, 7-foot tall, 2,000-pound pigs roamed the earth.

* The 1963 movie "Charade" entered the public domain immediately upon its release because Universal Pictures published it with an invalid copyright notice.

* All the air in potato chip bags everyone complains about is actually nitrogen and serves a useful purpose: It preserves crispiness and provides a cushion for shipping.

* Former Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg once went undercover as a taxi driver in Oslo because he wanted to "hear from real Norwegian voters and taxis were one of the few places where people shared their true views."

* Abolitionist Frederick Douglass was the most photographed American of the 19th century.

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

Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Happy 21st
Birthday
Michelle!



We love you!
Mom, Dad,
Billie & Susie

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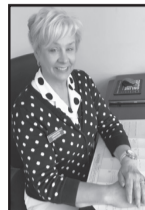
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Love, Joey



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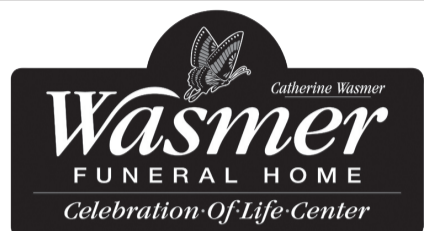
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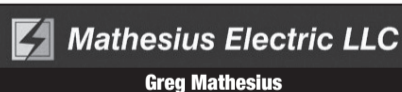
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101

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE OF
TIMESHARE ESTATE
OR ESTATES UNDER
SECTION 10 OF THE
TIMESHARE LIEN
AND SECURITY IN-
TEREST ACT
By virtue of the time-
share instrument of the
Fox River Resort, 2558
N.3653 Road, Sheri-
dan, Illinois 60551 and
Section 5 of the Time-
share Lien and Security
Interest Act establishing
a managing entity lien
for failure to pay as-
sessments and other
costs on the timeshare
estate (or estates, if
more than one) held by
the owner of the time-
share estate (or owners,
if more than one) listed
below, the timeshare
estate (or estates, if
more than one) and for
the purpose of foreclos-
ing, the same will be
sold at public auction
starting at 11 o'clock
a.m. on Tuesday, April
25, 2023, at the east
entrance of Etna Road
Government Complex,
LaSalle County, Illinois,
707 Etna Road, Ottawa,
IL 61350.
Each timeshare es-
tate is a 1.923% and/
or 0.9615% undivided
interest (each, a "Unit")
as tenant-in-common at
Fox River Resort, a va-
cation ownership proj-
ect in LaSalle County,
Illinois, as per the re-
corded plat(s) thereof
and according to the
Amended and Restated
Declaration of Restric-
tions, Covenants and
Conditions recorded
under File No. R2000-
31258 and any Supple-
mental Declarations
recorded in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds,
LaSalle County, Illinois,
as supplemented and
amended from time
to time (the "Declara-
tion"), together with the
exclusive right to occu-
py the Unit during the
Designated Use Peri-
od Number(s), as said
Use Period is defined
in the Declaration, upon
and subject to all of the
terms, restrictions, cov-
enants, conditions and
provisions in the Decla-
ration.
XAVIER ANDERSON,
116 ALLEN ST, NEW
YORK, NY 10002, ac-
cording to the Deed
dated January 22, 2020
and recorded under File
No. 2019-17328, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on De-
cember 19, 2019, are
the owners of the time-
share estate to be fore-
closed, more particular-
ly described as Unit No.
389 Frequency Annual,
Use Period Number(s)
18, Phase 6
XAVIER ANDERSON, A
SINGLE MAN, 116 AL-
LEN ST, NEW YORK,
NY 10002, according to
the Deed dated January
24, 2020 and recorded
under File No. 2019-
13534, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on October 15,
2019, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 403 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 19,
Phase 6
SUSANARLINE BRUN-
TON AND CHARLES D.
BRUNTON, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SURVI-
VORSHIP, 7390 SW
98TH AVE, OCALA,
FL 34481, according
to the Deed dated May
16, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
09237, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on June 28, 2017,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 432 Frequency An-
nual, Use Period Num-
ber(s) 15, Phase 7
COHEN W. BUR-

NETT AND AMY M.
STOUDENMIRE, 107
N OAK ST, VILLA
GROVE, IL 61956, ac-
cording to the Deed
dated October 11, 2018
and recorded under File
No. 2018- 12848, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSal-
le County, Illinois, on
September 21, 2018,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 780, Use Period
Number(s) 15, Phase 1
A J COLLIER AND PA-
TRICIA R COLLIER,
HUSBAND AND WIFE,
AS JOINT TENANTS
WITH FULL RIGHTS
OF SURVIVORSHIP
AND ANY UNKNOWN
HEIRS AND LEGA-
TEE'S, 2133 TEPEE
AVE, CARPENTERS-
VILLE, IL 60110, ac-
cording to the Deed
dated July 31, 2016
and recorded under File
No. 2017-15675, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on Oc-
tober 06, 2017, are the
owners of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 383
Frequency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 03,
Phase 3
G U M E R S I N D O
CORTES, A SINGLE
MAN AND ASCEN-
CION HERNANDEZ, A
SINGLE WOMAN, AS
JOINT TENANTS WITH
FULL RIGHTS OF
SURVIVORSHIP, 4202
S ARCHER AVE, CHI-
CAGO, IL 60632, ac-
cording to the Deed dat-
ed November 19, 2016
and recorded under File
No. 2017- 13453, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on Au-
gust 31, 2017, are the
owners of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 288
Frequency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 13,
Phase 4
CIARA DEES, A SIN-
GLE WOMAN, 20915
SW 30TH AVE, NEW-
BERRY, FL 32669, ac-
cording to the Deed dat-
ed September 19, 2019
and recorded under File
No. 2019-10643, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on Au-
gust 23, 2019, are the
owners of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 92,
Use Period Number(s)
22, Phase 2
MICHAEL F DIMARCO,
PO BOX 36, DEERS-
VILLE, OH 44693, ac-
cording to the Deed
dated October 07, 2017
and recorded under File
No. 2018-13656, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on Oc-
tober 10, 2018, are the
owners of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 119
Frequency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 12,
Phase 2
PAUL ANTHONY
ELIZALDE AND MA-
RIA E. DE CASTRO
ELIZALDE, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SUR-
VIVORSHIP, 9612
BOULEVARD DR,
HIGHLAND, IN 46322,
according to the Deed
dated June 06, 2016
and recorded under File
No. 2016-14617, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on Sep-
tember 30, 2016, are
the owners of the time-
share estate to be fore-
closed, more particu-
larly described as Unit
No. 67 Frequency Annual,
Use Period Number(s)
31, Phase 1
ROGELIO L. FRANCO,
A SINGLE MAN AND
RENA ELIZABETH IN-
DORANTO, A SINGLE
WOMAN, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SUR-
VIVORSHIP, 5444 S
74TH AVE, SUMMIT
ARGO, IL 60501, ac-

cording to the Deed
dated April 11, 2016
and recorded under File
No. 2016-20015, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on De-
cember 29, 2016, are
the owners of the time-
share estate to be fore-
closed, more particular-
ly described as Unit No.
145 Frequency Annual,
Use Period Number(s)
25, Phase 2
JACQUELINE GIL-
LISPIE, 3004 ELEDGE
LN, SEVIERVILLE, TN
37876, according to
the Deed dated June
20, 2018 and recorded
under File No. 2018-
06499, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on May 31, 2018,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 52 Frequency An-
nual, Use Period Num-
ber(s) 01, Phase 1
CARMEN GONZALEZ
AND LUIS R. GONZA-
LEZ ORTIZ, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SURVI-
VORSHIP, 41 WOOD-
LAND PARK CIR,
GILBERTS, IL 60136,
according to the Deed
dated March 28, 2016
and recorded under File
No. 2016-10902, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on July
29, 2016, are the own-
ers of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 382
Frequency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 11,
Phase 3
CARMEN GONZALEZ
AND LUIS R. GONZA-
LEZ ORTIZ, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH
FULL RIGHTS OF
SURVIVORSHIP, 327
WINDSOR CT UNIT
B, SOUTH ELGIN, IL
60177, according to
the Deed dated March
28, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2016-
10902, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on July 29, 2016,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 382 Frequency An-
nual, Use Period Num-
ber(s) 11, Phase 3
CARL L. GOODRICK
AND LINDA D. GO-
ODRICK, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SURVI-
VORSHIP AND ANY
UNKNOWN HEIRS
AND LEGATEE'S,
10103 207TH ST W
APT 207, ILLINOIS
CITY, IL 61259, ac-
cording to the Deed
dated June 17, 2016
and recorded under File
No. 2016-14644, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on Sep-
tember 30, 2016, are
the owners of the time-
share estate to be fore-
closed, more particu-
larly described as Unit
No. 219 Frequency Annual,
Use Period Number(s)
12, Phase 4
RAY HODGES, UN-
MARRIED, 2023 PIT-
TMAN CENTER RD,
SEVIERVILLE, TN
37876, according to the
Deed dated December
17, 2020 and recorded
under File No. 2020-
17569, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on November 12,
2020, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 114, Use
Period Number(s) 07,
Phase 2
SHIRLEY L HURSEY,
A SINGLE WOMAN,
1309 ELLIS DR, URBAN-
NA, IL 61801, according
to the Deed dated June
17, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2016-
14949, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on October 05,
2016, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described

as Unit No. 153 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 19,
Phase 2
EDGAR IGNACIO-SIL-
VESTRINI AND GILDA
I. IGNACIO, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SUR-
VIVORSHIP, 6800 S
TRIPP AVE, CHICAGO,
IL 60629, according to
the Deed dated June
12, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
12084, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on August 09,
2017, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 434 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 24,
Phase 7
EDGAR IGNACIO-SIL-
VESTRINI AND GILDA
I. IGNACIO, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SUR-
VIVORSHIP, 1834
CROSSROADS BLVD,
WINTER HAVEN, FL
33881, according to
the Deed dated June
12, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
12084, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on August 09,
2017, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 434 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 24,
Phase 7
EDGAR IGNACIO-SIL-
VESTRINI AND GILDA
I. IGNACIO, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SUR-
VIVORSHIP, 6800 S
TRIPP AVE, CHICAGO,
IL 60629, according to
the Deed dated June
12, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2016-
14953, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on October 05,
2016, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 200 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 33,
Phase 4
EDGAR IGNACIO-SIL-
VESTRINI AND GILDA
I. IGNACIO, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SUR-
VIVORSHIP, 1834
CROSSROADS BLVD,
WINTER HAVEN, FL
33881, according to
the Deed dated June
12, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2016-
14953, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on October 05,
2016, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 200 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 33,
Phase 4
EQUITY ACQUISITION
SERVICES, INC., A
FLORIDA CORPORA-
TION, 757 SE 17TH ST,
FORT LAUDERDALE,
FL 33316, according
to the Deed dated May
23, 2019 and recorded
under File No. 2019-
04703, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on April 30, 2019,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 413 Frequency An-
nual, Use Period Num-
ber(s) 49, Phase 7
JAMES R. KELLER,
JR., A SINGLE MAN,
1321 N WASHINGTON
ST, NAPERVILLE, IL
60563, according to the
Deed dated November
02, 2015 and recorded
under File No. 2016-
08624, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on June 22, 2016,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 391 Frequency An-
nual, Use Period Num-
ber(s) 19, Phase 6
RICKY KING AND MI-
CHELLE SUMMER-

ALL, 518 CHESTNUT
ST #1, WAUKEGAN, IL
60085, according to the
Deed dated January
16, 2019 and recorded
under File No. 2018-
15994, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on December 03,
2018, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 1270, Use
Period Number(s) 49,
Phase 2
RICKY KING AND MI-
CHELLE SUMMER-
ALL, 1718 LONGVIEW
RD APT 7, WAUKEG-
AN, IL 60087, accord-
ing to the Deed dated
January 16, 2019 and
recorded under File
No. 2018- 15994, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSal-
le County, Illinois, on
December 03, 2018,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 1270, Use Period
Number(s) 49, Phase 2
MARINA BAY AND
MIDLER SERVICES
LLC, A LIMITED LIAB-
ILITY COMPANY, 28
SHANNON CIR, MAS-
COTTE, FL 34753,
according to the Deed
dated July 18, 2018
and recorded under File
No. 2018-06437, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on May
30, 2018, are the own-
ers of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 12,
Use Period Number(s)
27, Phase 1
MARINA BAY AND
MIDLER SERVICES
LLC, A LIMITED LIAB-
ILITY COMPANY, 28
SHANNON CIR, MAS-
COTTE, FL 34753,
according to the Deed
dated July 19, 2018
and recorded under File
No. 2018-05905, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on May
17, 2018, are the own-
ers of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 13,
Use Period Number(s)
28, Phase 1
MARINA BAY AND
MIDLER SERVICES
LLC, A LIMITED LIAB-
ILITY COMPANY, 28
SHANNON CIR, MAS-
COTTE, FL 34753,
according to the Deed
dated July 19, 2018
and recorded under File
No. 2018-05875, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on July
19, 2018, are the own-
ers of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 23,
Use Period Number(s)
21, Phase 1
KIMBERLY E. LULFS
AND JOSHUA M.
LULFS, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SUR-
VIVORSHIP, 452 S
GROVE ST, BOWLING
GREEN, OH 43402,
according to the Deed
dated March 20, 2016
and recorded under File
No. 2017-11005, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on July
26, 2017, are the own-
ers of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 433
Frequency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 10,
Phase 7
RICHARD L MAREK,
A SINGLE MAN, 510 N
PINE ST, MOMENCE,
IL 60954, according to
the Deed dated August
20, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
16828, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on October 20,
2017, are the owners
of the timeshare es-
tate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 125
Frequency Even, Use
Period Number(s) 22,
Phase 2
LIZETTE MORALES

(SINGLE), JOCELYN
JIMENEZ (MARRIED),
ALEXANDER BUT-
TERFIELD (SINGLE),
TANYA MORALES
(SINGLE) AND NLSB,
AN IL CORPORATION,
AS TRUSTEE OF THE
NUMBER 3020 TRUST,
DATED 02/08/2006,
1841 KENILWORTH
AVE APT 1, BERWYN,
IL 60402, according to
the Deed dated May
29, 2020 and recorded
under File No. 2020-
03517, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on March 13,
2020, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 132 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 34,
Phase 2
LIZETTE MORALES
(SINGLE), JOCELYN
JIMENEZ (MARRIED),
ALEXANDER BUT-
TERFIELD (SINGLE),
TANYA MORALES
(SINGLE) AND NLSB,
AN IL CORPORATION,
AS TRUSTEE OF THE
NUMBER 3020 TRUST,
DATED 02/08/2006,
6424 W 64TH PL APT
1B, CHICAGO, IL
60638, according to
the Deed dated May
29, 2020 and recorded
under File No. 2020-
03517, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on March 13,
2020, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 132 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 34,
Phase 2
JUAN MORENO, MA-
RIA E. MORENO, AND
JUAN C. MORENO,
AS JOINT TENANTS
WITH FULL RIGHTS
OF SURVIVORSHIP,
4927 KIRK ST APT
1E, SKOKIE, IL 60077,
according to the Deed
dated January 15, 2019
and recorded under File
No. 2018-14958, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on No-
vember 08, 2018, are
the owners of the time-
share estate to be fore-
closed, more particular-
ly described as Unit No.
133 Frequency Annual,
Use Period Number(s)
43, Phase 2
JUAN MORENO, MA-
RIA E. MORENO, AND
JUAN C. MORENO, AS
JOINT TENANTS WITH
FULL RIGHTS OF
SURVIVORSHIP, 3219
W PARKWAY DR APT
3B, NORTHBROOK, IL
60062, according to the
Deed dated January
15, 2019 and recorded
under File No. 2018-
14958, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on November 08,
2018, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 133 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 43,
Phase 2
AYESHA MARIE
PRITCHETT AND
VERONICA NICOLE
NYREE DRAPER, AS
JOINT TENANTS WITH
RIGHTS OF SURVI-
VORSHIP, 5627 N ORI-
OLE AVE, CHICAGO, IL
60631, according to the
Deed dated September
14, 2018 and recorded
under File No. 2018-
11024, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on August 13,
2018, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 58E, Use
Period Number(s) 18,
Phase 1
AYESHA MARIE
PRITCHETT AND
VERONICA NICOLE
NYREE DRAPER, AS
JOINT TENANTS
WITH RIGHTS OF
SURVIVORSHIP, 1028
W 103RD PL, CHICA-
GO, IL 60643, accord-
ing to the Deed dated
September 14, 2018
and recorded under File

No. 2018-11024, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on Au-
gust 13, 2018, are the
owners of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 58E,
Use Period Number(s)
18, Phase 1
RUSSELL L REED JR,
8555 CITRUS AVE
APT 116, FONTANA,
CA 92335, according
to the Deed dated May
08, 2020 and recorded
under File No. 2020-
04445, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on March 31,
2020, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 170 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 14,
Phase 1
DARRYL J SARNA, A
SINGLE MAN, 1447
MIDLAND CT, JOLIET,
IL 60436, according to
the Deed dated June
10, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2016-
14621, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on September 30,
2016, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 141 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 30,
Phase 2
DALE R SCHUMACH-
ER, A SINGLE MAN,
2226 WINNEBAGO
DR, SPRINGFIELD,
IL 62702, according to
the Deed dated August
19, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
12088, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on August 09,
2017, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 133 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 36,
Phase 2
DALE R SCHUMACH-
ER, A SINGLE MAN,
C/O WILLIAMS, WIL-
LIAMS & BEMBENEK,
139 E WASHINGTON,
EAST PEORIA, IL
61611, according to
the Deed dated August
19, 2016 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
12088, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on August 09,
2017, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 133 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 36,
Phase 2
JEROME SMITH, SR.
AND MARKEITHA L.
SMITH, HUSBAND
AND WIFE, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SURVI-
VORSHIP, 8170 W
BEECHWOOD AVE,
MILWAUKEE, WI
53223, according to the
Deed dated October
02, 2017 and recorded
under File No. 2018-
09240, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on July 09, 2018,
are the owners of the
timeshare estate to be
foreclosed, more partic-
ularly described as Unit
No. 157 Frequency An-
nual, Use Period Num-
ber(s) 31, Phase 2
JOSHUA S THOMAS,
A SINGLE MAN, 726
W BARRY AVE APT 25,
CHICAGO, IL 60657,
according to the Deed
dated November 07,
2015 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
13205, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on August 29,
2017, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 375 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 20,
Phase 3
RICHARD L VENZON,
A SINGLE MAN, 3317
W LATROBE ST, PEO-
RIA, IL 61605, accord-

ing to the Deed dated
April 18, 2016 and re-
corded under File No.
2017-09236, in the
Office of the Recorder
of Deeds for LaSalle
County, Illinois, on June
28, 2017, are the own-
ers of the timeshare
estate to be foreclosed,
more particularly de-
scribed as Unit No. 426
Frequency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 09,
Phase 7
FAWN WEAVER, AS
HER SOLE AND SEPA-
RATE PROPERTY, PO
BOX 105, REDLANDS,
CA 92373, according to
the Deed dated August
01, 2019 and recorded
under File No. 2018-
02674, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on March 07,
2018, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 63 Frequen-
cy Annual, Use Period
Number(s) 06, Phase 1
EILEEN A. WIGGINS
AND HARRELL L.
WIGGINS, AS JOINT
TENANTS WITH FULL
RIGHTS OF SURVI-
VORSHIP, 340 N FO-
LEY AVE, FREEPORT,
IL 61032, according to
the Deed dated January
03, 2017 and recorded
under File No. 2017-
14223, in the Office of
the Recorder of Deeds
for LaSalle County, Il-
linois, on September 15,
2017, are the owners
of the timeshare estate
to be foreclosed, more
particularly described
as Unit No. 199 Fre-
quency Annual, Use
Period Number(s) 31,
Phase 4
TERMS OF SALE: At
the time and location
noted above, the time-
share estate listed
above will be sold at
public auction to the
highest bidder for cash.
Purchase price shall be
paid in full at the time
of sale by cash or cer-
tified and immediately
available funds. In the
event the managing
entity lienholder or its
authorized agent is the
purchaser of the time-
share estate, the man-
aging entity lienholder
or its authorized agent
may offset against the
purchase price of the
timeshare estate an
amount equal to all or
a portion of the amount
due under the manag-
ing entity lien (and thus,
credit bid).
Other terms may be an-
nounced at the public
auction.
Managing entity lien-
holder:
Holiday Inn Club Vac-
ations Incorporated,
A Delaware Corporation
By: Julie Sabon-Van
Dyke
Name: Julie Sabon-Van
Dyke
Title: Assistant Secre-
tary
No. 0401
(April 5, 12 and 19,
2023)
**IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
THIRTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LASALLE COUNTY,
OTTAWA, IL
PROBATE DIVISION**
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
)
)
BETTY J. STOCK-
DELL, DECEASED.
NO. 2023-PR-000062
)
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to credi-
tors of the death of Bet-
ty J. Stockdell, of Peru,
Illinois. Letters of Office
were issued on March
23, 2023, to Eleanor
Wozniak, of Peru, IL,
as INDEPENDENT
EXECUTOR, whose
Attorneys of record
are SCHWEICKERT
GANASSIN KRZAK
RUNDIO, LLP, 2101
MARQUETTE ROAD,
PERU, IL 61354.
Claims against the es-
tate may be e-filed in
the Office of the Circuit
Clerk, Probate Division,
LaSalle County Court-
house, 119 W. Mad

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Sell your household items for free.
Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words
- one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



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ison Street, Ottawa, Illinois 61350, or with the Representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. If the claim notice is personally mailed or delivered to a creditor of the above estate, the claim must be filed in the above entitled cause within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, whichever is later. Any claims not filed within the above periods are barred.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <https://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 758, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Circuit Clerk. Dated: March 23, 2023 Greg Vaccaro

LaSalle County Circuit Clerk
Ottawa, IL 61350
No. 0319
(March 29, April 5 and 12, 2023)

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 28, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Rod Smith Guns located at 357 N. 2575 Road, Oglesby, IL. 61348.

Dated: March 28, 2023. Rodney A. Smith Applicant.
No. 0402
(April 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 14, 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 Refresh Landscaping located at 2589 N. 28 Road, Marseilles, IL. 61341.

Dated: March 14, 2023. Ethan Robson Applicant.
No. 0403
(April 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

NOTICE FOR

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

ESTATE OF
()
()
Michael A. Castiglia, Deceased
()
Case No. 2023-PR-69
()

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Michael A. Castiglia of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 31, 2023 to Stephanie A. teDuits of 2871 Blue Sage Drive, Unit A, Coralville, IA 52241 whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before October 15, 2023. If a claim notice is mailed or delivered personally to a creditor of the decedent, the creditor's claim may be filed on or before the date stated in the notice, if later than the date shown above. Any claim not filed within the time allowed is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.
No. 0405
(April 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, OTTAWA, ILLINOIS

IN THE)
MATTER)
OF THE)
ESTATE)
OF)
KEVIN R.)
) FOLTYNEWICZ,)
) Deceased.)
Case No.: 23 PR 71)
CLAIMS NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of KEVIN R. FOLTYNEWICZ, of Peru, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 31, 2023 to HOLLY A. CHRISTMAN, 162 E. U.S. Hwy. 52, Mendota, IL 61342, and whose attorney is David M. Kaleel, 806 Jefferson Street, Mendota, Illinois 61342.

Claims against the estate may be e-filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison St., Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the Independent representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, or if mailing or delivery of a Claim Notice from the Independent Executor is required, the date stated in that Notice. Any claim not filed on or before the above stated dates is barred.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/serviceproviders.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAZ/gethelp.asp>. Copies of a claim e-filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the Attorney within ten (10) days after it has been e-filed with the Clerk of Court. Dated this 3rd day of April, 2022. Greg Vaccaro Circuit Clerk-LaSalle County Courthouse 119 W. Madison St., Ottawa, IL 61350 David M. Kaleel Attorney for Executor 806 Jefferson St Mendota, IL 61342 815-539-5616 kaleel5@frontier.com Legal No. 0406 (4/12, 4/19, 4/26 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
No: 2022-JA-51
To: Wilbert Teamer, Unknown Father's, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:
Take notice that on the 3rd day of April, 2023 a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Vicki L.

Denny, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Ciara Weathersby, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 223 at Ottawa on the 21st day of June, 2023, at the hour of 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an Adjudicatory Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to your child. If the petition requests the termination of your parental rights and the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption, you may lose all parental rights to the child. You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in the case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights. Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered. Dated: April 4, 2023 Greg Vaccaro, Clerk Legal No. 0407 (4/12 2023)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

APARTMENTS FOR RENT: MENDOTA
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815-498-2262.

For Rent
Upstairs 1 Bedroom, Kitchen & Bath Refrigerator & Oven included
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03202023

515 GARAGES FOR RENT

Mendota MULTIPLE
Garages for Rent
815-539-3747

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

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2019 Chevy Blazer AWD RS, White, GM Certified, 1 Owner, Local Trade, Leather Interior, Heated/Cooled Seats, Sunroof & Much More!

\$33,900

2021 Chevrolet K-1500, Crew LTZ, 4x4 Z71, 31K Miles, Silver.....\$49,900	2019 Chevy Equinox FWD Premier, Sunroof, 59K miles, Red.....\$22,900
2020 Chevy Tahoe LS, 4 WD, Silver.....\$37,900	2019 Chevy Blazer RS AWD, Loaded, 33K Miles, White,.....\$33,900
2020 Chevy Equinox LT, Midnight Edition, FWD, Leather, 36K Miles, Black.....\$24,900	

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, Long Box, LT, 4x4, 99K Miles, Red.....\$37,900	2019 Chevy 1500 Dbl Cab RST, 4WD, Z71, Gray.....\$28,900
2019 Chevy Suburban 4x4 LTZ, Loaded, 112K Miles, Brown.....\$41,900	2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 99K Miles, Silver.....\$28,900
2019 Chevrolet K-1500 Crew, LT 4x4, 85K Miles, White.....\$31,900	2018 Chevy Equinox FWD Premier, Loaded, Red, 92K Miles.....\$18,900

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fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return call ASAP. Fully insured, in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas. **CUSTOM Construction Systems.** Residential/ Commercial Roofing. Shingles/Metal/Flat. 815-871-7835. (05-24-23)

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

301 ANTIQUES

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

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware,

pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

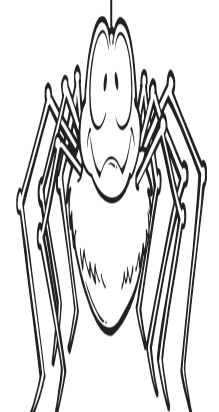
307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

ADVERTISE WITH US



INFORMATION

Office Hours:
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Monday-Friday)
Phone:
815-539-9396
Fax:
815-539-7862
Email:
jgriffith@mendotareporter.com
Address:
703 Illinois Ave., Mendota
Mail:
P.O. Box 300
Mendota IL 61342-0300

DEADLINES:

- Mondays at 10 a.m. to start in Wednesday Mendota Reporter
- Thursdays at 4 p.m. to start in Monday Money Saver

All classified marketplace line ads will appear in the following 7 print publications and on 5 high-traffic newspaper websites:
• Rochelle News-Leader • Ogle County Life • Rochelle Shopping News • Ashton Gazette • Amboy News • Mendota Reporter • Mendota Money Saver

Call for pricing that starts at \$32.99 for private party ads and \$44.60 for commercial business ads and \$15.99 for garage sale ads.

DISCLAIMER:

If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and will only credit customer for one insertion.

Everybody hates you.

You don't see bullying like this every day. Your kids do.

Teach your kids how to **be more than a bystander.**

Learn how at StopBullying.gov



203 HELP WANTED

GENE'S LAWN SERVICE

Is hiring Lawn Service personnel experience a plus but will train for a lead position. Lawn equipment maintenance a plus . Zereturn mower experience and lawn maintenance equipment. Salary based on experience Contact
Ken Ricketts
815-690-4025
Email:glsg2076@gmail.com



REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE

FREE MARKET ANALYSIS

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

JOE MCCONVILLE	815-910-5673	MARTY MCCONVILLE	815-200-2233
SHARON KIMREY	815-343-3600	MELODY NANZER	815-228-2842



909 Greenridge Ave., Earlville
\$135,000
MLS# 11742763

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.



SOLD!

509 W. Winthrop St., Earlville
\$64,000
MLS #11682529

2 bedroom home. Selling AS IS. Home is considered 1 1/2 story but there is only living space on the first floor. Nice lot and 2 car garage. Call for an appointment.

McConville

REALTY & AUCTIONEERING

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker

612 S. Main St., Mendota • 815-539-5673

E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com

mcconvillerealtymendota@gmail.com

Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com

Call one of our Agents to set up your private showing.

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker

815-910-5673

Marty McConville, Broker

815-200-2233

Richard McConville,

Broker 815-539-5673

Sharon Kimrey, Broker

815-343-3600

Melody Nanzer, Broker

815-228-2842

FEATURE HOME

Homestead Realty
1316 Lakewood Plaza,
Rte 251 N., Mendota
815-539-3811



1005 Washington St.,
2 Unit
Mendota
\$94,500

Wish List?

Contact one of the
Realtors featured on this

page to help you find the home of
YOUR DREAMS!

**IT'S THE BEST TIME TO
SELL! LOW INVENTORY! LET
US HELP YOU GET YOUR
PROPERTY SOLD!**

Rebecca McPheeters
DESIGNATED MANAGING BROKER

(708) 220-3338



Town & Country
Realty

Rita Lilja
BROKER/OWNER

(815) 712-7346



Town & Country
Realty

Lori Munson
REAL ESTATE AGENT

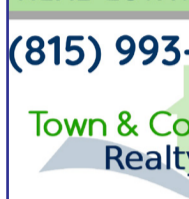
(815) 228-4852



Town & Country
Realty

Jami Bauer
REAL ESTATE AGENT

(815) 993-7751



Town & Country
Realty



607 Sixth St.,
Mendota
(815) 539-6635



Town & Country
Realty

www.tcrealtysales.net

Evening Phone Numbers

Becky McPheeters, Designated Managing Broker

708-220-3338

Rita Lilja

815-539-9255

Jami Bauer, Broker

815-993-7751

Lori Munson, Broker

815-228-4852



Helping
people
find homes
since 1983.



Homestead
REALTY

Helping people find homes since 1983.

PHONE (815) 539-3811

1316 Lakewood Plaza

Rte. 251 N. • Mendota

Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker

Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101



BUILDING LOTS



408 5TH AVENUE,
MENDOTA

**\$18,000 - READY
FOR A CORNER
HOUSE IN
TOWN?! GREAT
NEIGHBORHOOD!**



15 ABBALLEE WAY
MENDOTA

**\$24,900 - GREAT
SUBDIVISION ON
ROUTE 34 NEAR
MENDOTA GOLF
COURSE!**

**Let Our Expertise Work For You!
Give Gloria And Sally A Call Today!**