



Mendota native Sam Setchell is the new President/CEO of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

New President/CEO is in charge of Mendota Chamber

□ Mendota native Setchell takes over position

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

MENDOTA—Sam Setchell knew she didn't want to be a stay-at-home parent any longer.

The brunt of COVID-19 and it changing the school schedule of her daughters Ryan (sixth grade) and Emery (third grade) was over.

Setchell didn't know exactly what she wanted to do and wasn't really actively looking for a job or career. Instead it found her as a family friend, Evan Wixom, Chair of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Board, let her know about the president/chief executive officer opening with the chamber.

"I was so bored that I started reading books again and going to the gym. That's how I was handling staying at home," said Setchell, 32, who has lived in Peru for the last six years with her boyfriend of eight years, Brian Owczarek, and the two girls. "I'm glad to be working again, especially a job like



Setchell

this where I feel like I have a purpose and can make a difference.

"This is going to be the career. It kind of came out of left field and unexpected because I wasn't actively searching for something. If the right opportunity came along, then of course I'd jump at it. I thought it was too good to be true."

Setchell, a Mendota native and Mendota High School Class of 2009 graduate, began her duties as the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce President/CEO on Jan. 16.

It has been different than staying at home for two years or her last job as a radio voice for Studstill Media for five years.

All fun, but different kinds of fun.

"I still feel like they're buttering me up. I've been here a little more than a month and I can't believe I'm having this much fun," Setchell said. "I'm waiting for that other shoe to drop. It's been a lot of learning. I've met a lot of people. I thought I knew Mendota growing

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LaSalle County among tops nationally in corn and soybean production for '22

□ Illinois led the nation in soybean production, second in corn last year

By KEVIN BESSLER
The Center Square

SPRINGFIELD—Several Illinois counties dominated the national rankings in terms of corn and soybean production last year.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released its county production totals for 2022. Crop statistician Mark Schleusener said in terms of corn production, one central Illinois county led the nation.

"McLean County ranked first across the entire U.S. with nearly 71 million bushels of corn produced last year," Schleusener said. "Additionally, Illinois had the top five counties in the country for total corn production."

Those other counties included Iroquois, Livingston, LaSalle and Champaign counties. Stark County had the highest yield in Illinois at over 240 bushels per acre, followed by Woodford and Ogle counties.

Iowa led the nation in total corn production in 2022, followed by Illinois, Nebraska, Minnesota and South Dakota.



LaSalle County was fourth in the country in total corn production and seventh in soybean production for the 2022 season.

Illinois is home to several counties that ranked in the top 10 for soybean production as well. McLean County led the nation, followed by two counties in Mississippi and North Dakota.

"Following those two, the

next four highest soybean producing counties were all in Illinois," said Schleusener. "Iroquois, Champaign, Livingston and LaSalle counties ranked fourth through seventh nationally."

Illinois led the nation

in soybean production last year, followed by Iowa and Minnesota.

Illinois soybean farmers export about 50% of their crop, with China, Mexico and Canada being the top three markets.

City Council sells property; approves ordinances

By KIP CHEEK
Staff writer

MENDOTA – The Mendota City Council approved the sale of property and several ordinances at its March 6 regular meeting.

Prior to the regular meeting, a public hearing was held in regard to a petition by Black Bros. Co. to vacate a portion of alley near its property. After no public comment, the meeting proceeded into regular session.

Alderman John Hessenberger made a motion to approve the petition, which was backed by the full council. The alley is between Eighth and Ninth avenues, south of Fifth Street.

Alderman John Holland's report included a short presentation by a rep-

resentative of the city's auditing firm. The representative said that the FY22 audit was given an unmodified opinion by the firm, which is the cleanest opinion that can be given. The audit was placed on file.

In other action from Holland's report, the council adopted ordinances authorizing the sale of municipally-owned property comprising two 2-acre properties in the Mendota Business Park. Two acres each were sold to Kunz Engineering and Lilja Tiling & Excavating in the amount of \$12,000 per acre. Both 2-acre parcels adjoin lots already owned by the purchasers.

Also from Holland's report, the council approved an intergovernmental agreement with Mendota Township

in regard to TIF 2022 and approved amending the wage ordinance.

Alderman Kyle Kim presented a side letter of understanding and agreement between the city and the Mendota Police Department patrol officers. The agreement was accepted and added to the contract.

Kim said all Mendota residents will be receiving a letter from the city in regard to a mandate from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois EPA in regard to the city conducting a water service line inventory. The Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification Act (LSLRN)

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Pritzker touts \$70 million plan for addressing teacher shortage in Illinois

□ Grant program targets vacancies in 170 districts accounting for 80% of vacancies

By NIKA SCHOONOVER
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Gov. JB Pritzker on March 3 highlighted a proposed grant program that would direct \$70 million per year over the next three years to school districts facing the greatest teacher shortages.

The Teacher Pipeline Grant Program, which Pritzker included in his budget proposal to lawmakers, would target vacancies in 170 school districts that account for 80 percent of all unfilled teaching positions in Illinois. The districts would

have "maximum flexibility" to decide how the funds are disbursed, according to a news release.

Funds could be used for signing bonuses, housing stipends, down-payment assistance and providing residencies or apprenticeships, among other hiring incentives. Districts may also use the funding to reimburse tuition and fees or to provide teaching supplies, coaching and additional school support.

"The result will be that over 870,000 Illinois students will see an improved teacher-student ratio, a crit-

ical factor in classroom success," Gov. Pritzker said. "Our collective goals are to make sure we have enough great teachers in every classroom."

The governor touted some of his earlier accomplishments aimed at improving the teaching workforce, including increasing the teacher minimum wage, increasing scholarships and grants for aspiring teachers, and reducing the reinstatement fees for a lapsed educator license.

Pritzker also made a call to other teachers in surrounding states to move to Illinois.

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The collective goal of the state's Teacher Pipeline Grant Program is to make sure there are enough great teachers in every classroom.



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DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

Sunday, March 12

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LOCAL AND AREA

Spend the day on the farm at Discovery Center

ROCKFORD – Discovery Center in Rockford is celebrating all things farming with Ag All Around Us on Saturday, March 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Discovery Center and the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau are joining forces to create a “farm-tastic” day. Explore the ways agriculture makes use of science, technology, engineering and math. Chat with local farmers, peek at live barnyard babies, make and sample butter, learn how to make a worm bin and sprout house, and get the scoop on soil. Enjoy cute crafts, earth-loving activities and eye-opening information. Bandanas, work boots and bib overalls optional.

All activities are included with general admission to Discovery Center. General admission: \$10 adults; \$10 children ages 2-17; free to Discovery Center members and children age 1 and younger. This event is sponsored in part by the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau and its Agriculture in the Classroom program, and a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



About Discovery Center Museum

Discovery Center Museum is a children’s science museum providing hands-on math, science and art experiences for all ages with over 250 hand-on exhibits and an award-winning outdoor park. Discovery Center Museum is the nation’s 5th Best Museum for Families according to USA TODAY/10Best.com, one of 12 museums included in Forbes.com’s article, The 12 Best Children’s Museums in the U.S. Discovery Center and earned a 2020

Trip Advisor “Traveler’s Choice” award. Discovery Center Museum is located inside Riverfront Museum Park, 711 N. Main St., Rockford. General admission to the Museum is: \$10 adults, \$10 children (ages 2 to 17) and free to Museum members and children age 1 and younger. Museum hours: 9:30 am-4:30 pm Tuesday – Sunday. For additional information regarding Discovery Center Museum, call (815) 963-6769 or log onto our website at www.discoverycentermuseum.org.



Blackstone pizza lunch

Blackstone School held its February principal award pizza lunch on Friday, Feb. 24. Attending the lunch, front row, left to right, are Jonathan Morato, Natalie Bodie, Anthony Jefferson, Frances Rupp and Addyson Fahr. Middle row, Asriel McGee, Emmett Mellott, Parker Krager, Kennedy Piller and Melanie Montes. Back row, Quentin Montecinos, Charles Smith, Quincy Ryan, Abrahm Garcia, Olivia Mathieu and Angel Figueroa. (Photo contributed)



Cleaning up the mess

After a few months of the burned buildings on Illinois Avenue in Mendota remaining idle, demolition, clean up crews, and street sweepers have come to the rescue. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

LaSalle County Bar Association sponsoring scholarships for high school students

OTTAWA – The LaSalle County Bar Association is again sponsoring scholarships for any high school senior in LaSalle County from the Class of 2023.

Applications can be obtained on the LaSalle County Bar Association website, lasallemountybar.org, or the Regional Office of Education website, www.roe35.org. Applications must be submitted by April 18, 2023 to the LaSalle County Regional Superintendent of Education Office, ATTN: LCBA Scholarships, 119 W. Madison St., Room 102, Ottawa, IL, 61350.

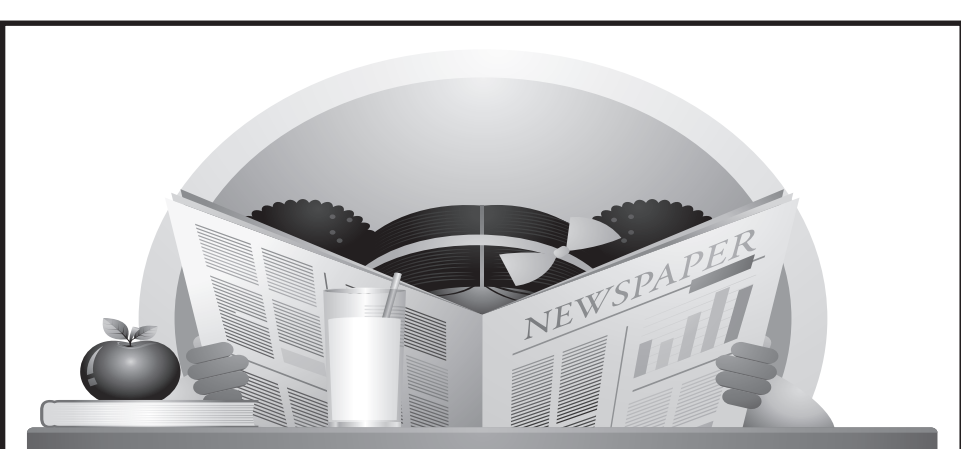
A committee of the Bar Association will screen the applicants for academics, extra-curricular activities and need. The application form requests a list of honors or awards received; school activities; community involvement; work experience; career plans; and needs for financial assistance. Up to four \$500.00 scholarships will be awarded, payable to the student.

The LaSalle County Bar Association encourages all eligible graduating seniors to apply and wishes the graduates success in their future endeavors.



John Ourth Award winners

Lincoln School fourth-graders Aaron Ortega, left, and Karessa Brown, right, and Northbrook School eighth-graders Javier Hernandez, second from left, and Brooklyn Baxa display their plaques for winning the Illinois Principal Association’s John Ourth Award. These students were chosen because they exemplify outstanding character, leadership skills and are role models for all students. (Photo contributed)



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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Dean R. Stephenitch

SUBLETTE – Dean R. “Dyno Dean” Stephenitch, 68, of Sublette, died on Sunday Feb. 26, 2023 at his home.

Cremation rites have been accorded with a celebration of life to be held from 4-8 p.m. Friday, March 31, 2023, at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

He was born on Oct. 8, 1954 in Sublette the son of Robert and June (Goy) Stephenitch. Dean married Susan Kalinoski on Nov. 22, 1986 in Amboy.

Dean is survived by his wife Susan; two sons, Robb (Alissa) Stephenitch of Woodridge and Joey Stephenitch of Sublette; two grandchildren, T.J., and Madi; his siblings, Terry (Deb) Stephenitch of Dixon, Charles (Karen) Stephenitch of Dixon, Ronald Stephenitch of Dixon, Diane (Roger) Truckenbrod of Sublette; and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Bob and June, and brother Scott Stephenitch.

Dean owned and operated his mowing and landscaping business, working on many recreational, residential, and commercial properties at Woodhaven and the surrounding areas. He loved his family, and collecting toy tractors. He spent much of his time helping with many fundraisers for people and organizations in need. He was also a co-founder of the annual Sublette Farm Toy Show and was involved with the show for over 37 years.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the American Kidney Fund or Teen Turf in Amboy. Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.



Robert E. Weiler

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Robert (Bob) E. Weiler, 72, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Indianapolis, Ind., on Monday, Feb. 27, 2023.

Funeral services will be Saturday, March 11, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Compton, with Pastor Jeff Schlesinger officiating. Visitation will be Friday, March 10, at Merritt Funeral Home in Mendota, from 5-7 p.m. with additional visitation at the church March 11 from 10 a.m. until time of service. The burial will immediately follow the service at Brooklyn Township Lutheran Cemetery in Compton.

Bob was born in Mendota on Feb. 18, 1951, to Elsworth and Helen (Shirley) Weiler.

Bob is survived by his sisters, Carolyn Becker of West Plains, Mo., and Linda Sullivan of Ottawa; his brother, John (Sheila) Weiler of Mendota; nieces Sherri (Rick) Joliff, Anita (John) Thompson, Tracy (William) Ahlborg and Roberta (Call) Blackburn and nephews Leslie (Cecelia) Becker, Roger (Susan) Jackson, Leon (Melissa) Noel, Daniel Weiler and many beloved great nieces, nephews along with great-great nieces and nephews. Bob was also known as being a great friend; he leaves behind many dear friends who were like family to him including Gary Metcalf and Glen “Steve” Hawkins along with countless others.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Mildred Barry, one brother in infancy, brothers-in-law Michael Barry, Ronald Becker and Gerald Sullivan, and one niece, Shelli Joliff.

Bob finished high school in Mendota and then went on to receive his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Religion from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and his Master of Social Work and PhD/ABD from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Bob had a long and distinguished career in social work as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and Licensed Clinical Addictions Counselor (LCAC). He was certified as an Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor IV and Internationally Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor. In addition, he was an active member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). Bob’s professional experience included working with youth services, child welfare, adult intellectual disabilities, and mental health and addictions. He also completed research and community service related to homelessness. From 1997-2006, Bob was an associate instructor and lecturer for the IU Division of Social Work, Northwest campus, Gary, Ind., where he also served as interim director from 2000-2002. His work outside of academia included providing outpatient psychotherapy in mental health and addictions. In 2007, Bob joined the IUPUI campus in Indianapolis as senior coordinator for the MSW Field Program. He became senior lecturer in 2012, and field administrator in 2013, at that time, serving in both capacities. He was dedicated to teaching and continued as senior lecturer and MSW field administrator at IUPUI until his passing. Bob’s honors and highlights include: • Co-Principal Investigator, Community Trust Grant, The National Center for Excellence in Homeless Services, 2019 • Co-Presentation, Ethics in Social Work Practice, IU School of Social Work, 2018 • Four (4) time Co-Program Director/Principal Investigator, National Homelessness Social Work Initiative • City of Indianapolis Continuum of Care (CoC), Program Application and Technical Assistance Committee (PATA) member, 2010-2019 • NASW Vice-President (Indiana Chapter), 2011-2014 • Principal Investigator, Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education (HPPAE) Grant, IU Northwest campus, 2008-2011 • NASW Region One Representative (Indiana Chapter), 2000-2002 • Social Worker of the Year for Region One, 2005. Although Bob’s professional accomplishments are extensive, his greatest accomplishments and titles were son, brother, uncle and friend. Bob loved his family and friends dearly and he will be deeply missed by all.

Pallbearers will be his nephews, Les Becker, Roger Jackson, Leon Noel; great nephews, Jacob Jackson, Joshua Noel, Tyler Noel; and best friends Glen “Steve” Hawkins and Gary Metcalf with Daniel Weiler serving as an honorary pallbearer.

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



Marvin Swope

CEMENT CITY, Mich. – Marvin “Butch” Swope, 86, of Cement City, Mich., and formerly of Compton, passed away Feb. 26, 2023, at Victorian Villa Assisted Living in Jackson, Mich.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Rev. Jeff Brace officiating. Burial will be at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the funeral.

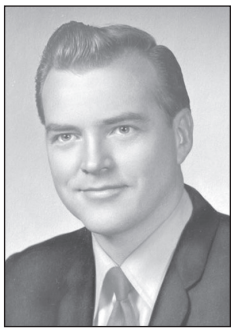
Marvin was born Nov. 24, 1936 in Compton, to Wendell and Elizabeth (Kehm) Swope.

Marvin is survived by his sons, Rickie Swope of Cement City, Mich., Lonnie Swope of Dowelltown, Tenn., and Jerrie Swope of Jasper, Mich.; his brother, Donald “Doc” Swope of Compton; sister, Marilyn “Toots” Ehlers of Princeton and longtime companion, Betty Fry of Mendota.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Lavilla Archer and his brothers Elroy Swope and Jerroll Swope.

Marvin was a farmer and a master journeyman in machinery repair and HVAC.

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



Betty Lou Edgecomb

MENDOTA – Betty Lou Edgecomb, 83, of Mendota, passed away peacefully on March 1, 2023 at Heritage Health with her daughter by her side.

All services will be private. Wasmer Funeral Home is privileged to assist the family.

Betty was born Dec. 8, 1939 in Mendota, to Harry and Ethel (Smith) Kleckner. She was a homemaker, and loved her family dearly.

Survivors include her two daughters, Cindy (John) Markich of Skokie and Christine Edgecomb of Mendota; five grandchildren, Nicholas, Natasha, Camie, Michael and Nicole; 11 great-grandchildren; and sisters Bev (Bob) Burnette of Rochelle and JoAnn (Fred) Grassle of California.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Citizens (M.A.S.S.). Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.



IVCC will host a welding competition for high school and IVCC students on April 1. (Photo contributed)

IVCC schedules welding contest for high school & IVCC students

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College and the American Welding Society’s Illinois Valley Section 139 are hosting a welding competition for high school and IVCC students Saturday, April 1. Prizes include scholarships and welding equipment.

Registration for high school students is 8 to 8:30 a.m., followed by competition from 9 to noon and awards at 1:30.

Registration for IVCC students is noon to 12:30 p.m., competition from 1 to 4 p.m. and awards at 5:30 p.m.

Students can compete in Shielded Metal Arc Welding

(SMAW) or Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) for \$20 or both for \$40. Each competition is 90 minutes.

Register by March 24 at ivcc.edu/enroll by selecting:

- “Login/Create Account” in top left corner.
- Under “New Students,” select “Create New Profile.”
- Enter a username and password and complete all fields. Make sure Class ID and grade level is correct.
- For assistance, call (815) 224-0427.

Sponsors are Vactor, platinum; Machinery Maintenance, Inc., Valley Fabrication, Inc., On Site Repair Services, Inc., and HCC, Inc., gold; and Carus, silver.

DEATH NOTICES

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

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The Mendota Reporter

Publication No. (USPS 339-100)
Vol. 145, No. 10

A Charter Member of
Mendota Area Chamber
of Commerce
Member Northern Illinois
Newspaper Association
and Illinois Press
Association

The Mendota Reporter (339-100) is published weekly at 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342. Subscription rates are \$56 per year in advance in LaSalle, Lee and Bureau counties and \$76 per year in advance in the United States outside those three counties.

Postmaster: Send address changes to
The Mendota Reporter,
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Mendota, IL 61342.
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LOCAL AND AREA

Chamber

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up here. I didn't even know half of it. I'm really excited to have this position and be part of the community.

"I'm excited to be the fifth generation of my family to be involved in the chamber. As far as I know, I'm the only one who has been the president/CEO. It started with my great-great-grandfather Horace Hume being the second or third president of the board. I'm excited to keep it going in my family and being involved in my family."

The four generations proceeding Setchell are Horace Hume, her great-grandfather James Hume, her great-aunt Julie Setchell and her father John D. Setchell.

"I have so much pride for Mendota. I was raised here. My family is here. My nephews are in Mendota schools," Setchell said. "I want people who are not from Mendota to know that this is the world's greatest little city."

"We take pride in our town. There has been tragedy as of late with fires taking a few of our buildings. As cliché as it sounds, we're only going to come back

stronger. We want to make Mendota as great as it can be. We want to bring in businesses and make sure the businesses that are here are happy and thriving."

Setchell, the Mendota Sweet Corn Mini Queen in 1996, is excited about planning for events such as the Sweet Corn Festival, Fourth of July, Christmas, and others such as the first ever Easter Hop.

Although she is thrilled to have the position and take part in its responsibilities, it doesn't come without nerves. Or inexperience.

Setchell is appreciative of her predecessor, Shelby Weide, who began her run as the president/CEO in September 2020, and others who have been helping hands.

"Shelby did a great job and I have pretty big shoes to fill. I'm grateful that she's been coming in and checking on me. She answers the phone when I call her with questions," Setchell said. "A big thank you to her and to Jesse Arellano, who has held my position before and is now on the board. I have a lot of support and everyone has been nothing but kind words and very helpful."

Teachers

Continued from Page A1

"We have surrounding states where teachers are paid less than teachers in the state of Illinois and I want to formally invite every teacher in every state surrounding us to jump over the border," Pritzker said, eliciting laughter from the crowd.

He was joined by newly-appointed State Superintendent of Education Tony Sanders, a former superintendent for Elgin Area School District U46, the second largest school district in Illinois.

Sanders pointed to Illinois State Board of Education data that shows Illinois schools reported 3,558 unfilled teaching positions as of October 2022.

"These shortages don't just affect students equally. These vacancies are concentrated in bilingual education, special education and STEM," Sanders said. "This is why the teacher pipeline program will target districts with the resources they need to solve locally the challenges they have for recruitment and retention and remove barriers preventing aspiring educators from pursuing a calling to teaching."

In addition to the grant

program, ISBE will also spend \$6 million in federal funds to hire a multimedia advertising and marketing firm to create a statewide teacher recruitment campaign.

The governor has spent several recent news conferences publicizing his plans on education issues, including his proposed "Smart Start" program to expand access to preschool and child care throughout the state. In the weeks following his budget address, he visited Springfield, Rockford, East St. Louis, Chicago, Mount Vernon, Chicago, Peoria and Macomb to rally support for the plan.

"When I came into office, the state of Illinois was providing nearly the lowest percentage of school funding for K-12 and P-12," Pritzker said. "That was four years ago. But during the last four years, with the General Assembly's help, we've addressed this woeful underfunding of K-12 education with an increase of more than \$1.5 billion from the state of Illinois."

His proposed plan calls for \$250 million to fund the first year of Smart Start and an additional \$350 million aimed at the Evidence Based Funding formula.

Council

Continued from Page A1

quires owners and operators of community water supplies (CWS) in Illinois to deliver a complete water service line material inventory to the Illinois EPA no later than April 15, 2024. The complete inventory must report the composition of all service lines within the CWS's distribution system.

In order to aid the city in this endeavor, residents will be asked to determine what type of material the water line entering your home or office (ex: copper, galvanized, lead, plastic) is made of. Residents are asked to go online to www.mendota.il.us and click on the link to complete a five-minute 'Water Service Line Material Survey.' The link is highlighted in purple and gold along the left side of the home page.

If you are unable to

complete the survey via the website, call the Mendota City Clerk's office at 815-539-7459 and set up an appointment for a water department employee to come to your home or office to complete this survey for you. Kim said the letters have already been sent to residents in the Third Ward.

OTHER ITEMS

Police Chief Greg Kellen said nine candidates participated in the police testing process on March 4. He said the department is looking to hire three officers. It currently has two vacancies and one upcoming.

Kellen said two 2023 Dodge Durango vehicles will be delivered on April 15 and should be ready for use on May 1.

The next regular meeting of the Mendota City Council will be Monday, March 20 at 5:30 p.m.

G.I.T. Improv comedy group coming to IVCC

OGLESBY – The Illinois Valley Community College Theatre Department and SPAMO (Students of Performing Arts and Music Organization) will present the professional comedy group, G.I.T. Improv (formerly "Guys In Ties") at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 17 in the Dr. Mary Margaret Weeg Cultural Centre.

Based in the Quad Cities, G.I.T. began as an extension of "Comedy Sportz," a professional improv competition show, and each team member is a comedian in their own right.

G.I.T. Improv has performed coast-to-coast for the last 30 years and has been joined on stage by Howie Mandel, Weird Al Yankovic, Norm MacDonald, Sinbad, Jeff Dunham and others.

"With nothing prepared, nothing scripted, and everything created from audience

members' suggestions, the show very much resembles the popular television show, 'Whose Line Is It Anyway?'" said IVCC Director and Choreographer Don Grant Zellmer.

"It's been a pleasure to have known Jeff Adamson and his team for a couple of decades," Zellmer said. "They've presented improv workshops for the IVCC improv team and were so generous with their time. Having them back on our stage for this fundraiser is absolutely something anyone who loves a good laugh shouldn't miss."

Admission to the one night only show is \$10 per person with tickets available at the door one hour prior to curtain. All proceeds benefit SPAMO and projects the group funds.

G.I.T. is the first of two special events presented by the department prior to the



G.I.T. Improv (formerly Guys In Ties) is an elite national touring company whose client list includes numerous Fortune 500 companies, comedy festivals and theatres. (Photo contributed)

April musical, "The Prom," the new Broadway comedy. The second event on March 31 is an evening with Broad-

way actor and IVCC alum Gene Weygandt. For information, visit www.ivcc.edu/theatre.

Compton, Amboy fire departments land 2023 Small Equipment Grants

SPRINGFIELD – The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) announced the recipients of the 2023 Small Equipment Grant Program. A total of \$1.5 million was awarded to 64 fire departments/districts and EMS providers across the state. The program was established to provide grants of up to \$26,000 each for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment.

Area grant recipients and their awards include Amboy Fire Protection District, \$26,000; Compton Community Fire Protection District, \$26,000; Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District, \$23,016.80.

This program is an innovative approach to a problem that has long caused difficulties for fire departments and not-for-profit ambulance services in Illinois, particularly those that have hardships in generating the necessary revenue for small equipment. The purpose is to allow eligible applicants the opportunity to purchase small equipment that they may otherwise not be able to purchase. The OSFM received 296 applications, requesting around \$4.5 million in funding for this grant period.

"The OSFM continues to remain committed to our mission of helping departments and districts purchase essential firefighting or EMS equipment that will help not only their members to stay safe, but continue to provide lifesaving services to their communities," said Acting Illinois State Fire Marshal Dale Simpson. "Budgets remain tight, and the cost of firefighting equipment continues to rise, that is why programs such as our Small Equipment Grant are a great resource, especially for our smaller and rural volunteer fire departments across the state."

Most Illinois fire departments, fire protections districts, township fire departments, and stand-alone, nonprofit ambulance service providers were eligible to apply. All fire departments, fire protections districts and township fire department applicants were required to have participated in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for a minimum of two years prior to applying.



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Local DAR chapter to hold meeting March 11 at library

MENDOTA – The March meeting of the Fort du Rocher chapter of National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution will be held Saturday, March 11 at 10 a.m. at the Graves-Hume Public Library in Mendota.

The program topic will be "Banning of Books." Guests are welcome to attend. Women over the age of 18 with lineage connecting them to a patriot of the Revolution War are eligible for membership. Assistance is available to help with proof of lineage.

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OPINION



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Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writer or artist. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Reporter management or staff.

Letters to the editor should be typed or handprinted. 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.

Letters

Catholic Sisters “Refuse to Use”

Dear Editor:

I rejoice to hear that three bills have been introduced in the Statehouse to ban single-use plastics at restaurants. More and more people around the world are becoming aware of the tremendous ecological consequences of plastic waste. I’m grateful to the sponsors and co-signers of Senate Bill 100 and House Bills 2376 and 3865 for this beginning step in Illinois.

Coincidentally, Catholic sisters across Illinois are addressing this issue with our “Refuse to Use” campaign. During Catholic Sisters Week March 8-14, we are challenging ourselves and

others to “Refuse to Use” single use plastic beverage bottles.

We agree with Abe Scarr, director of the Illinois Public Interest Research Group, who states: “We cannot recycle our way out of the problem. That’s why we need to stop it at the source.” We’re hopeful that our state legislators will support legislation to curtail plastic waste.

You can join us and learn more about the Refuse to Use campaign and Catholic Sisters Week at springfieldop.org/csw.

Sr. Marcelline Koch, OP
Springfield

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Starting the First State Bank – 1940

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from March 7, 1990.)

By Jessica Nashold

Weekly newspapers are under the perpetual handicap of dealing with news previously covered in dailies. Fifty years ago today, Thursday, March 7, 1940, The Reporter had the pleasure of publishing news of the day, on that day.

For some time past there have been rumors that another bank was to be organized in Mendota and housed in the splendid old First National Bank building. This Thursday, news has been released that permission has been received from Springfield to proceed with the work of organization.

It was explained that the building had been purchased by a group of citizens several years before in the hope that a new bank could be organized to occupy it. Now at last it was about to happen.

The date of opening of the First State Bank will be announced later.

That date proved to be July 6, 1940.

Of more immediate concern was the district music contest hosted by Mendota High School. Contestants were coming from 40 schools on Saturday, March 9 and again on March 16. The medals to be awarded were displayed at The Reporter. Stanley Fischer, head of the music department at Mendota High, was in charge of arrangements.

The Mendota Knights of Columbus sponsored a Mendota Blood Donor’s Club. Club members had their blood tested, typed and recorded at St. Mary’s Hospital in LaSalle. They would then be on call to give blood in emergencies.

City worker Ralph Withrow lost his balance as he stood on one of the I-beams across the creek behind the Masonic building and tumbled in. The assault on the ice turned into a spectator sport.

He had on a pair of hip boots and with an axe was chipping away as he stood in the stream. Quite a number of people gathered at the scene of the ice jams on

Backtracks & Sidetracks

Sunday and Monday.

The ice was five feet thick in places and it was estimated about 150 tons were broken loose and sent down stream.

While attacking ice jams, Mayor Spanier observed the amount of trash in the creek. He urged the council to remedy this condition.

Much rubbish from business establishments and private homes has been thrown in the creek. It will cause much pollution and stench when the weather moderates.

The mayor wanted the health department to take action.

A new police car was wanted by the city. Five hundred dollars in fines for 1939 had been turned over by justice of the peace Roy McInturf. Carl Yost, city clerk, asked the state highway department if the city could use the money toward a patrol car. The answer was no. Fines could be used only for street and road repairs or improvements. Mayor Spanier suggested that a patrol car be included in the next appropriation on May 1.

A special supplement featured homes still new in 1940. A picture of each house was included with a description of its desirable features. These presentations were flanked by advertising for construction firms and their suppliers.

Homes shown were those of Dr. and Mrs. Edgar C. Cook, Dr. and Mrs. M. Gleason, H.L. Bailey, Jacob Auchstetter, W.J. Frost, Frank Boyle, Harry Ossman, Charles Wenninger, Glenn Morris, Laurence Boyle, Floyd Blotch, Alfred Jacob, William Jacob, Edwin Seith, Albert Virgil, Harold Sonntag, George Gesslein, Wm. H. Phalen, Lester Beckner and Mrs. Mary Kilmartin.

The Reporter reminded readers that

the census was about to be taken and offered advice.

Make up your mind to meet the census man and when he comes you might as well sit down, give him all the information you can and be done with it. When you deal with the government you are to be careful because the government is mighty powerful.

On March 4, the Mendota Women’s Club joined in a celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the National Federation of Woman’s Clubs. The local club was marking its 43rd anniversary.

Mrs. Charles Erbes, the only charter member present, gave the history of the club. Miss Alice Browne and Miss Eva Rice, longtime members, were introduced. Playlets were presented by members from three departments. Russell Simmons performed on his marimba.

As birthday cake was served from a special table, members placed silver offerings on a gold plate to be forwarded to the national treasury.

Harry Burright had a dozen race horses and colts in training at Mendota fairgrounds. Among the locally-owned were a 2-year-old colt, King George, owned by George Otterbach; Pay Day, owned by Charles Haight; and Eureka, a bay mare owned by Dr. Edgar C. Cook.

Soon the horses will be working out each day on the good half-mile track and there will be plenty of fans watching them go.

Ice jams at all the usual bends in Mendota creek as it wound through town were severe and drastic measures were adopted.

It sounded like someone was bombing the city last Sunday. Wilbur Westgate set off at least a dozen charges of dynamite beneath the bridge east of the Baptist Church. Dishes in houses nearby would rattle and windows would shake, but no panes of glass were broken.

No idle bystander, Mayor Jacob Spanier worked with “the city men.”

Don’t rewrite books to keep up with trends

By Rich Lowry

First, they came for Roald Dahl. Anyone who thought the politically correct rewriting would stop at the irreverent author of such children’s classics as “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” and “Fantastic Mr. Fox” was, of course, sadly mistaken.

The news that hundreds of changes have been made in Dahl’s classics is now followed by word that Ian Fleming, the creator of James Bond, is getting an emergency rewrite as well.

This is a very bad idea.

For a start, where does it end? There’s no limiting principle that would prevent the editing of nearly every great writer in the Western canon. Homer is cauldron of toxic masculinity. Chaucer, who has been removed from curricula at various universities, would need extensive re-working -- for the offense of relaying 14th-century attitudes toward women, if nothing else. As for Shakespeare, has anyone read “Othello”?

We get the word “bowdlerize” from Thomas Bowdler, who published a version of Shakespeare more appropriate for families in the early 19th century. He meant well, but his name has become synonymous with ham-fisted editing of texts for political or social reasons. The first Bowdler edition of the bard’s works axed about 10% of the original, taking out blasphemous language and other unsettling material. The suicide of Ophelia, for instance, became an accidental drowning.

Even Bowdler, by the way, wasn’t sure he was able to fix “Othello.”

Then, there’s the matter of the integrity of the record. Great authors use every word in a book for a reason. Changes in the language, even if done with care, change the meaning and the nature of the work. If Roald Dahl used colorful language to describe a character (and he quite often did) and it’s stripped out for fear of offending people, say, with double chins, the character has been changed -- without the author’s permission and counter to how he published his work.

This is no more defensible than someone deciding Monet’s

water lilies should be an ever-so slightly different shade of green, or that Tchaikovsky should have written his “1812 Overture” in D-sharp minor instead of E-flat major.

Any such suggestions would be considered cultural vandalism and the same should apply to the woke rewriting of literature.

Relatedly, the edits of enduring works are never, ever going to do anything other than make them worse --less colorful, pointed, and eloquent. If nothing else, this is a basic question of literary talent and flair.

To return to the example of Dahl, he’s been edited by an outfit called Inclusive Minds (“passionate about inclusion, diversity, equality and accessibility in children’s literature”). To put it simply, Dahl was good at writing; Inclusive Minds is good at DEI. If any editor at Inclusive Minds had a fraction of Dahl’s abilities, this remarkable person wouldn’t be working at expurgating someone else’s works but writing his or her own beloved children’s books.

Finally, we call classics “timeless” because they are imbued with a quality of genius that transcends the fashions of their time and our own. Trying to constantly rewrite them to keep up with the latest trends, which may well seem idiotic in due course (fingers crossed), is a fool’s errand.

It is also inherently sinister. There’s a reason that everyone naturally recoils from Winston Smith’s work in “1984” in the Records Department of the Ministry of Truth, changing old newspaper articles and photographs to update them in keeping with the dictates of the party. The falsity, the thoroughness, and the need for control, extending all the way to the past, are all disturbing hallmarks of totalitarian politics.

Now, it’s not a party that is demanding the reworking of inconvenient texts, but a corrupted part of our culture that can’t abide the idea that offensive, or potentially offensive, terms and descriptions exist in books that have demonstrated astonishing popularity and staying power. There’s no doubt who the giants are here and who are the small-minded censors.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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BRIDAL GUIDE



A well-planned budget can be just what couples need to begin married life on strong financial footing.

Building a wedding budget without breaking the bank

Wedding planning is a unique experience unlike any endeavor most couples will ever encounter. Much effort goes into planning a wedding, and that includes building a budget that ensures the big day will be fun without breaking the bank.

Most couples planning a wedding have never tied the knot before, so it can be difficult to determine a reasonable amount to spend. It's easy to go overboard when planning a wedding, and couples may find their list of wants and, consequently, their expenses, growing as they get into the weeds of wedding planning. Though it might require some difficult decisions, couples can keep these tips in mind so they can build a wedding budget that won't land them in debt after saying, "I do."

- **Determine funding.** The days when a bride's parents would finance the wedding entirely on their own are largely a thing of the past. According to a recent WeddingWire Newlywed Report, parents now pay for 52 percent of wedding expenses. As couples begin establishing a wedding budget, it's imperative that they first determine who, if anyone, will be helping them finance the big day. Fifty-two percent of wedding expenses is a significant amount of money, but in that scenario, couples will still need to come up with roughly half of the money needed to fund their weddings. Couples without substantial savings may be forced to cut back in order to avoid beginning their life as a married couple in debt.

- **Make a list of potential expenses.** Location will be a significant factor when determining potential expenses. For example, a 2022 ValuePenguin analysis of data from The Wedding Report found that the average wedding in Massachusetts cost roughly \$30,500 in 2020, while couples tying the knot in Arkansas spent around \$12,500 on their weddings. With such wild fluctuations, it's important that couples get an accurate estimate of how much it may cost them to get married in a given city. Couples who met in a city and still live in a city but grew up in a suburb might save a considerable sum by getting married in their hometowns. Compare and contrast prices in locales you're considering, and then build your budget accordingly. This can help you avoid sticker shock and going over budget. Notable expenses to budget include the venue, attire (i.e., wedding dress and tuxedo rental), hairstyle and makeup, entertainment, photography, and transportation, among others.

- **Make a list of what's most important.** Most couples will have to compromise in order to avoid taking on debt to finance their weddings. An earnest discussion about what's most important to each person can ensure you both get what you want. Each person can make a list of their priorities, ranking them from most important to least important. Once lists are shared, couples can see where their priorities converge and where they diverge. Any items that rank low on each person's list of priorities can be afforded less funding, while those that are high on each list can take up more of the budget, if necessary.

- **Commit to a limit before spending a dime.** Committing to a limit before spending a dime can help couples keep wedding costs more manageable. Once that number is defined, couples can then work within its parameters, which can make potentially difficult decisions a little easier by narrowing options at a time when options can seem endless.

A well-planned budget can be just what couples need to begin married life on strong financial footing.

5 financial tips for newlyweds

(StatePoint) Spring is in the air and with it, ushers in wedding season. If you're about to get married or just walked down the aisle, here are five things to do to ensure your financial health.

1. **Determine how you will handle finances.** They say money can't buy love and happiness, but talking about it in a marriage, or even beforehand, goes a long way. You'll want to discuss whether you'll have a joint bank account and credit cards, separate accounts or a combination of the two. It's a personal decision, so consider the pros and cons. It's also a good idea to know the roles you will play. For example, will you or your partner pay the day-to-day bills? The other person may want to manage the monthly mortgage and auto expenses, or even the long-term investments and retirement funds. If you need help coming up with a plan, you may want to seek the advice of a financial counselor.

2. **Get life insurance.** When you get married is a perfect time to take steps to protect your loved ones if something unfortunate should happen. "If you have people who depend on you — including your new spouse — chances are you need life insurance," said Lou Colaizzo, senior vice president, of a nationally-known insurance company. "While it's hard to think about the possibility of not being there for a loved one, it's so important to plan



While you and your partner start your new life together, have an open conversation about financial considerations and double check to make sure you're covered to protect the life you're building.

for." Colaizzo recommends people consult with their insurance agent to determine the life insurance that's best for them.

3. **Protect your bling.** Chances are you spent a lot of time and money picking out rings you'll love and wear every day. Unfortunately, burglaries are more common than you may think. According to the FBI, there were more than 1.1 million burglaries in 2019. Protect your wedding jewelry, and any other expensive jewelry, by adding these items to your homeowners or renters policy. It is advisable to have photos and documentation

of the value of the ring and other valuable jewelry in the event of a theft or a loss.

4. **Update your car insurance.** Notify your agent to make sure you're both covered to drive each other's cars. You may also be eligible for savings, such as a multi-car discount or bundling your car insurance with homeowners and/or life insurance. Additionally, some insurance companies offer a lower rate for married couples.

5. **Make updates to your records** if you change your last name. It's a big decision and takes a lot of work if one of you decides to change your name after marriage. It's

important to be patient and diligent as the entire process may take several months. Remember to update all the appropriate forms, including a new Social Security card, driver's license, passport, bank accounts and credit cards, among other considerations. Additionally, notify your employer for payroll and health insurance coverage updates.

Getting married is an exciting, big life event. While you and your partner start your new life together, have an open conversation about financial considerations and double check to make sure you're covered to protect the life you're building.

How to pick the perfect wedding dress

Planning a wedding requires making many different decisions. The choice of wedding attire is among the most crucial decisions that couples must make. Whether the wedding is traditional or customized to suit couples' personalities, brides and grooms want to look their best when they say, "I do."

Many brides-to-be spend a significant amount of time looking for their ideal wedding dresses. What defines the right gown depends on personal preference and is unique to the person doing the search. For example, a dress that sets a fairy tale scene for one bride may not necessarily align with the tastes of another. According to Bridal Atelier, the average bride-to-be tries on try three to seven dresses before finding the right one. The following tips can help those shopping for dresses find a look that makes their big day even more special.

1. **Don't get hung up on perfection**

Many brides get caught up as they search for the one dress they consider perfect. No dress is likely to check every box. Getting hung up on a desire to find a dress that has it all may make it hard to see the beauty in other dresses. Remember, with the talents of an experienced tailor or

seamstress, most dresses can be tweaked to suit your vision of the ideal gown.

2. **Consider the season**
Getting married during the hazy and humid days of summer is an entirely different experience than tying the knot during the heart of winter. The fabric of the wedding dress should complement the season, whether it's lightweight and breezy for a warm day, or more substantial and cozy when darting to the ceremony in snowfall.

3. **Flatter your figure**
Chances are brides-to-be know which cuts and styles are most flattering. Mimic those style choices in the wedding dress. If you want to take focus off of full hips, choose a basque or asymmetrical waistline. Gowns with substantial straps or higher necklines may be better if you have a larger chest. Sheath and mermaid style gowns are options if you are confident with your figure and want to show off your curves.

4. **Try a bit of this and that**

Don't go into a wedding dress appointment with firm parameters. Although you may have a ball gown style in mind, after trying on other options something with a less voluminous silhouette

may actually catch your eye. Many brides also automatically defer to strapless gowns, when various straps and sleeves can be very appealing.

5. **Arrive with a firm budget**

Weddings can be costly. It's important to set a budget for the wedding dress just as you will with other expenses. There are plenty of dress designers across a wide

spectrum of price points. A willingness to consider and ultimately purchase a less costly dress can help you stay on budget.

Browsing through magazines and looking online can provide wedding dress inspiration as well. Also, when in doubt, defer to the experts at bridal shops who have experience choosing dresses that brides are inclined to love.

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THE BACK PAGE

POLICE BLOTTER

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Ana V. Guerrero, 35, of 406 U.S. Highway 34, Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at Washington Street and Indiana Avenue at 4:14 p.m. Feb. 28. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DUI, SUSPENDED LICENSE

Hector Rivera, 45, of 1203 Jefferson St., Mendota, was charged with driving while under the influence and driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Jefferson Street and Wisconsin Avenue at 3:47 p.m. March 1. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DUI

Victor R. Escamilla, 37, of 815 Washington St., Apt. 2, Mendota, was charged with driving while under the influence after police officers investigated the report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of 13th Avenue and Memorial Drive at 10:19 p.m. March 1. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Bart Larsen, 53, of Amboy, was arrested at 5:58 p.m. March 3 at Illinois Avenue and Monroe Street on a valid Lee County warrant for violation of an order of protection and criminal trespass to a residence. The subject was unable to post bond and was transported to the Lee County jail.

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Ethan A. Brown, 27, of 728 ½ Main St., Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at 13th Avenue and West Main Street at 12:49 p.m. March 5. Additional charges are pending. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Hector D. Hernandez Benitez, 43, of 3904 E. 758th Road, Triumph, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at First Avenue and 11th Street at 6:57 p.m. March 6. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

Lee County Sheriffs to conduct traffic campaign

LEE COUNTY – All too often, St. Patrick's Day celebrations turn deadly because of impaired driving. However, you celebrate, make sure you and your friends stay safe this St. Patrick's Day by remembering one important piece of advice: If you'll be drinking alcohol, using cannabis or any other impairing substance, remember "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Drive High. Get a DUI."

"This year, St. Patrick's Day falls on a Friday, and that means more parties throughout the weekend," said Chief Deputy Derek Ranken of the Lee County Sheriff's Office. "If you've been drinking, using cannabis or any other impairing drug, make the smart choice and plan for a sober driver to get you and your friend's home safely. Before you put your keys in the ignition, remind yourself: 'Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.'"

In addition to looking for alcohol and canna-

bis-impaired drivers, the Lee County Sheriff's Office will be stepping up seat belt enforcement, particularly at night when seat belt usage rates are lowest. Speeding, distracted driving and all traffic laws will be strictly enforced.

"Before celebrating St. Patrick's Day this year, decide whether you'll drink or you'll drive, or whether you'll use or you'll drive," Ranken said. "If you choose to drink or use cannabis, designate a sober, reliable driver to get you home safely."

Always designating a sober driver and not letting friends drive drunk are just two simple steps to help avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

Other important tips:

- Remember, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you serve is involved in an impaired driving crash.

- Make sure all guests designate a sober driver in advance or help arrange ride-sharing with other sober drivers.

- Serve lots of food and include lots of non-alcoholic beverages at the party.

- Keep the phone numbers for local cab companies handy and take the keys away from anyone who is thinking of driving drunk.

- Designate a sober driver before the party begins and give that person your keys.

- If you do not have a designated driver, ask a sober friend for a ride home, call a cab, sober friend or family member to pick you up or just

stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober.

- Never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive drunk.

- Always buckle up.

Pedestrians are at risk, too. If you are walking, keep an eye out for cars. Designated drivers: Be alert for impaired walkers who may not obey street signs.

The St. Patrick's Day enforcement campaign is funded by federal traffic safety funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and is administered through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

City Council meeting schedule

MENDOTA – The Mendota City Council meeting schedule for 2023 is as follows:

March 20; April 3 & 17; May 1 & 15; June 5 & 19; July 3 & 17; Aug. 7 & 21; Sept. 5 & 18; Oct. 2 & 16; Nov. 6 & 20; Dec. 4 & 18.

Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. and are held in the City Council Chambers, 607 Eighth Ave., Mendota.

It's almost garage sale time!!!

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SPORTS

The Great Debate

The debate of all debates isn't who is the best president, which war was the greatest or dumbest for the United States of America to enter, or which is better, Coke or Pepsi.

Since 2003 when LeBron James came into the NBA, the most argued debate has been who is the greatest of all time (GOAT), Michael Jordan or James?



By Brandon LaChance
Staff writer

Obviously, it took some time for James to put up the numbers or win a few championships before the debate became real, but the clear talent and physical ability was there for James to be one of the best ever.

And he is.
Just not the best.
I'll put my biases aside since I've always lived in northern Illinois or southern Wisconsin. I was born in 1985 and began watching the NBA and remembering it during the Chicago Bulls' first three-peat.

In 1996 when they won the first championship of the second three-peat, I was 11 and had two Jordan jerseys and a Bulls Starter jacket. I didn't get my first pair of Jordan shoes until I was 12 after my stepfather told me I had to get a job if I wanted expensive shoes. I had them seven months later after I picked up two newspaper routes and was extra nice to the sweet older ladies during Christmas bonus season.

Biases aside, let's get to the numbers.
Congratulations to LeBron James for becoming the NBA All-Time regular season scoring leader as he has 38,450 as of Monday, March 6.

He passed Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's 38,387 career regular season points on Feb. 8 when he scored 38 points against the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Great record to have and it shows his talent and durability to take.
Key word is durability.

It took him 20 years.
When Jordan retired after a 14-year career, he was third on the list with 32,292 points with 1,072 games and 41,010 minutes played.

LeBron has played in 1,413 games and has logged 53,833 minutes to acquire his 38,450 points.

If Jordan played an extra 341 games (the number of games LeBron has played more than MJ) averaging his NBA record, 30.12 points per game during the regular season, that would give Jordan an extra 10,271 points, which would put him at 42,563 points.

Where LeBron was able to go to the NBA straight out of high school, Jordan and Kareem were not allowed.

Kareem scored 2,325 points at UCLA. If those carried over to the big league, he would be at 40,712 points. Jordan scored 1,788 at North Carolina.

This would put LeBron at third without me going into a debate about Karl Malone, currently third on the list or many others.

If we are talking playoffs and championships, we already know Michael Jordan has six rings and was the finals MVP for all six.

He didn't have to jump around to different teams or make "The Decision" to leave the Cleveland Cavaliers to go play with his friends on the Miami Heat.

Jordan was drafted by the Bulls and stayed with the Bulls until his second retirement and then played with the team he had ownership in, which makes sense.

LeBron chased rings and has still fallen short six times. The man has been to the finals 10 times with super teams he has created and has only won four championships. And one of them was during the COVID-19 bubble.

Is LeBron one of the greatest athletes we've seen? Yes.

Is he a great ambassador for the NBA? Yes.
Is he an icon and on the Mount Rushmore of the NBA? Yes.

Is he the recipient of a longevity award? Yes.
Is he the GOAT? No.

If Jordan would have played 20 years, this wouldn't even be a discussion, let alone a debate.

Jenner, Brant named all-conference basketball

MENDOTA – Mendota High School's Katie Jenner and Reanna Brant earned Three Rivers Conference-East Division all-conference honors for the 2022-23 girls' basketball season.

Jenner, a senior, and Brant, a junior, were both selected to the second team. On the season, Brant averaged 10.3 points per game, 12.5 rebounds and 2.9 blocked shots. In conference games, Brant scored at a 12.8 clip, averaged 12.4 rebounds and 3.3 blocks. Jenner scored 9.6 points

per contest and averaged 3.2 steals for the season, while in conference games she put up 14.1 points per outing and had 3.3 steals.

FIRST TEAM

*Kate Salisbury, Jr., Kewanee;
*McKenna Christiansen, Jr., Hall;
*Mya Dearing, So., Kewanee; *Olivia Garten, Sr., Princeton; Keighley Davis, Fr., Princeton; Jess Johns, Jr., Newman (* indicates unanimous selection)

SECOND TEAM

Ali Bosnich, Jr., St. Bede; Katie Jenner, Sr., Mendota; Kate Stoller, Jr.,

Bureau Valley; Promise Giacometti, Sr., Hall; Reanna Brant, Jr., Mendota; Madison Duhon, Jr., Newman; Miya Fox, Jr., Princeton; Mariah Hobson, Sr., Princeton; Camryn Driscoll, Fr., Princeton

HONORABLE MENTION

Toni Newton, Sr., Hall; Marissa Stevens, Sr., Kewanee; Emma Crofton, Sr., Kewanee; Ella Hermes, Jr., St. Bede
(Final conference standings: Princeton 12-0; Bureau Valley 9-3; Hall 8-4; Kewanee 5-7; St. Bede 3-9; Newman 3-9; Mendota 2-10)

Little 10 selects top girls' hoop players for 2022-23

EARLVILLE—The Little Ten Conference girls' basketball coaches have selected the Little Ten All-Conference Girls' Basketball Team for the 2022-23 season.

Players earning the honor are:

• **Serena** — Conference Champions, Conference Tournament Champions, IHSA Class 1A Regional Champions, IHSA Class 1A Sectional Champions:

**Paisley Twait (Jr...G)—13.1 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 3.3 apg, 2.7 spg; Repeat Unanimous Selection; **Jenna Setchell (So...G)—12.1 ppg, 4.5 rpg, 3.0 apg, 3.2 spg; Makayla McNally (Jr...F)—8.6 ppg, 7.4 rpg, 2.0 spg; Repeat Selection

• **Newark** — Conference Runner-Up, Conference Tournament Runner-Up, IHSA Class 1A Regional Champions: **Taylor Kruser (Sr...G)—4.0 ppg, 6.0 rpg,

5.0 spg; **Kiara Wesseh (Jr...F/G)—11.5 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 6.0 spg

• **Hinckley-Big Rock** — Conference 3rd Place, Conference Tournament 3rd Place, IHSA Class 1A Regional Champions: **Devin Werner (Sr...C)—11.0 ppg, 6.8 rpg, 2.5 bpg, 1.5 apg, 54.3% FG; Anna Herrmann (Fr...G)—11.4 ppg, 4.5 rpg, 2.5 spg, 2.1 apg, 36.8% 3-point FG

• **Somonauk-Leland**

Coop: **Josephine Rader (Jr...G)—13.4 ppg, 6.9 rpg, 3.5 apg, 2.9 spg, 1.0 bpg; Repeat Selection

• **Earlville:** **Madysen Olson (Jr...G)—18.3 ppg, 6.9 rpg, 3.7 apg, 5.5 spg

• **Indian Creek:** **Isabella Turner (So...G)—14.9 ppg, 14.2 rpg, 2.9 apg, 2.5 spg, 1.0 bpg, 77% FT
(*Denotes a unanimous selection)

Illinois hunters harvest more than 158,000 deer during 2022-23 seasons

SPRINGFIELD – Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 158,010 deer during all 2022-2023 archery and firearm seasons that concluded Jan. 15. The total preliminary deer harvest for all seasons compares with a total harvest of 146,438 deer for all seasons in 2021-2022.

During the 2022-2023 deer seasons, hunters took 45.04% females and 54.96% males.

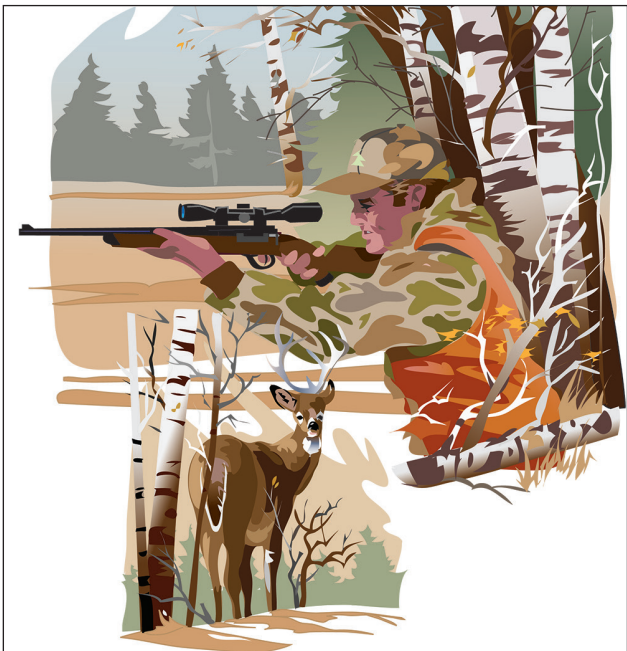
Totals from specific seasons:

• Archery deer hunters took a preliminary total of 69,557 deer during the season that began Oct. 1 and concluded Jan. 15. The total archery harvest during the 2021-2022 season was 66,630 deer.

• Youth deer hunters harvested a preliminary total of 3,339 deer during the three-day Illinois youth deer season Oct. 8-10, compared to 1,847 in 2021.

• Traditional firearm season hunters took a preliminary total of 76,854 deer during the firearm season Nov. 18-20 and Dec. 1-4. This compares to a harvest of 70,456 deer taken during the 2021 firearm season.

• Muzzleloader hunters harvested a preliminary total



of 2,856 deer during the muzzleloader-only season Dec. 9-11, compared with a harvest of 3,046 deer during the 2021 muzzleloader season.

• Late-winter seasons: The 2022-2023 late-winter antlerless-only and special chronic wasting disease (CWD) deer seasons concluded Jan. 15 with a combined preliminary harvest total for both seasons of 5,404 deer. Season dates for the seven-day late-winter and CWD seasons were Dec. 29-Jan. 1 and Jan. 13-15.

During the same seasons in 2021-2022, a total of 4,504 deer were taken.

Sixteen northern Illinois counties were open to the special CWD season, which is used to assist in slowing the spread of chronic wasting disease in the Illinois deer herd. And 24 counties were open for the late-winter antlerless season in 2022-2023. Counties that are at or below their individual deer population goal for two consecutive years may be removed from the late-winter season.

BOWLING

Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Feb. 27 – 1. Split Happens 30-20; 2. CM Farm 26-24; 3. Sports-N-Stuff 26-24; 4. Leagal Beagles 25-25; 5. Ramer Inc. 22-28; 6. Bad Kats 21-29

High team game (scratch) – Ramer Inc. 782, Sports-N-Stuff 728, Split Happens 700

High team game (hdcp) – Ramer Inc. 986, Sports-N-Stuff 985, Leagal Beagles 950

High team series (scratch) – Ramer Inc. 2228, Sports-N-Stuff & Split Happens 2004, Leagal Beagles 1947

High team series (hdcp) – Ramer Inc. 2840, Sports-N-Stuff 2775, CM Farm 2771

Men's high game (scratch) – Ron Westphal 246, Luke Ross 227, Mike Smith 222

Men's high game (hdcp) – Brendan Ramer 320, Ron Westphal 276, Mike Smith 268

Men's high series (scratch) – Luke Ross 623, Matt Ramer 616, Mike Smith 604

Men's high series (hdcp) – Brendan Ramer 873, Ed Roulston 764, Mike Smith 742

Women's high game

(scratch) – Brenda Westphal 189, Jessica Robinson 186, Sarah Westphal 178

Women's high game (hdcp) – Brenda Westphal 267, Sarah Westphal 254, Kim Smith & Audrey Ho-llocker 250

Women's high series (scratch) – Jessica Robinson 493, Hannah Westphal 492, Gail Sessler 489

Women's high series (hdcp) – Hannah Westphal 711, Sarah Westphal 705, Debbie Berger 673

Tuesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Feb. 28 – 1. Black Bros. 65-39; 2. Team 2 54-50; 3. JJ&L Carpentry 49-55; 4. Age Old Organics 39-65

High team game (scratch) – JJ&L Carpentry 1073, Team 2 963, Age Old Organics 922

High team game (hdcp) – JJ&L Carpentry 1185, Age Old Organics 1084, Team 2 1034

High team series (scratch) – JJ&L Carpentry 3094, Team 2 2840, Age Old Organics 2637

High team series (hdcp) – JJ&L Carpentry 3430, Age Old Organics 3123, Team 2 3053

High individual game (scratch) – Luke Ross 257, Randy Weathers 236, Todd

Smith, Kirk Ross & Owen Wixom 235

High individual series (scratch) – Randy Weathers 666, Luke Ross 652, Eli Otterbach 634

Wednesday Night Men's League

Standings as of March 1 – 1. Boelk Truck Lines 55.5-44.5; 2. First State Bank 51.5-48.5; 3. Mendota Monument 49-51; 4. O'Donnell Excavating 44-56

High team game (scratch) – Mendota Monument 1076, First State Bank 1002, Boelk Truck Lines 910

High team game (hdcp) – Mendota Monument & First State Bank 1119, O'Donnell Excavating 1036

High team series (scratch) – Mendota Monument 2918, First State Bank 2821, Boelk Truck Lines 2673

High team series (hdcp) – First State Bank 3172, Mendota Monument 3047, O'Donnell Excavating 2989

High individual game (scratch) – Erik Schmitt 258, Kirk Ross 245, Drake O'Donnell 239

High individual series (hdcp) – Erik Schmitt 667, Kirk Ross 642, Drake O'Donnell 618

Classes make exercise fun

Some people find the best way to get in shape is to do so alongside another person. Group classes can provide the inspiration, variety and fun needed to keep fitness enthusiasts engaged. Some are offered by traditional gyms while others may be found at specialty fitness facilities.

Regular exercise is essential to good health, and these classes can add a spark to workouts.

• **Spin class:** Spin classes have been around for some time and have long been a trendy group exercise. Many health clubs offer spin classes in their facilities.

• **Trampoline classes:** Sometimes referred to as "SkyRobics," trampoline classes take place in trampoline recreation centers or specialized trampoline training centers. NASA states that 10 minutes of bouncing on the trampoline is equivalent to 30 minutes of jogging.

• **Surfing/yoga meld:** These classes focus on getting into yoga positions on an unstable board. Boards may be balanced on three stability boards, and the body has to work to support muscles while exercising, resulting in a leaner look.

• **Dance class:** Many exercise classes are built around dancing. While Zumba™ may be the best known, burlesque dancing, Bollywood dancing and tap dancing to get in shape are all growing in popularity.

Fun ways for seniors to stay active

Physical activity is an important component of overall health. Health experts advise that exercise can increase lean body mass, prevent conditions like diabetes and cardiovascular disease, improve balance, and positively affect mental health/cognition. Exercise also can foster socialization with others, helping people overcome boredom and isolation.

As individuals get older, they may not be able to participate in all of the activities they enjoyed as youths, but that doesn't mean older adults must resign themselves to sedentary lifestyles. Explore these methods for staying active.

Explore senior center offerings

Community senior centers often fill calendars with a vast array of activities, some of which can include physical activities. Hikes, walking tours, dances, and other activities all serve as entertaining ways to get out and about while meeting some fitness goals.

Garden or do yard work

The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotions says adults should

get 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week. Raking leaves, mowing the lawn, digging in flower beds, trimming bushes, and other outdoor tasks could help a person meet this quota in a way that doesn't seem like exercise at all.

Play games with grandchildren

Little kids may inspire older adults to be more active, as it can be difficult to keep up with those youngsters. Take infants or toddlers for walks or push them in strollers. Attach a child seat or towing carriage to a bicycle and ride around the neighborhood. Play games that require movement, such as hide-and-seek or Marco Polo in the pool. If it's snowing, have a snowball fight or make a snowman in the yard.

Take up a new hobby

Find hobbies that incorporate physical activity. Perhaps learning to salsa dance or taking Zumba™ will be fun? Pickleball has caught on across the nation. The sport is a mix of tennis, racquetball and badminton that caters to all ages. Joining a bowling team is another way to get active and meet new people.

ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Two-time Oscar winner Mahershala Ali has been cast to take over the "Blade" franchise from Wesley Snipes, who starred in three "Blade" films. But, before that, Ali will star opposite Julia Roberts, Ethan Hawke and Kevin Bacon in the psychological thriller "Leave the World Behind."



M. Ali

In other "Marvel World" news, Tom Holland, whose "Spider-Man: No Way Home" hit over a billion dollars worldwide, will be spinning webs for a fourth time, in a film currently being written. Before that, he'll play Fred Astaire in a biopic centering on Astaire's relationship with his sister, Adele. They successfully moved from vaudeville to Broadway as a top dancing team, until she got married in 1932 and decided to settle down. Astaire then moved to

Hollywood as a solo act and starred in movie musicals. Holland will also play Milannative Pino Lella, who, at 17, infiltrated the Nazi party during World War II by enlisting in the German army. The film is based on the book "Beneath the Scarlet Sky." Lella is now 92 and living on Lake Maggiore in Italy.

When I was 19, I was a huge fan of Kim Novak. I took so many pictures of her that we sort of became friends. When she arrived at the post-party for the premiere of "The Amorous Adventures of Moll Flanders" (1965), she invited me to join her entourage. During the party, she dropped her favorite lighter, and I dove under the table to find it. Somehow, I wound up under the many petticoats of her costume -- but that's another story.

Some of her greatest films were "Picnic" (1955) with William Holden; "The Man With the Golden Arm" (1955) and "Pal Joey" (1957), both with Frank Sinatra; "Vertigo" (1958) and "Bell,

Book and Candle" (1958), both with James Stewart, to name some.

Kim eventually moved from Big Sur, California, to a 43-acre ranch in Sams Valley, Oregon, with her veterinarian husband, Robert Malloy. In July of 2000, their home was destroyed by a fire, and she lost all the art she painted and the draft of her autobiography, which had taken her 10 years to write. In February, Kim turned 90 and spent her birthday painting and riding her favorite horse, Poet. Sadly, her husband passed away in 2020. The Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio, hosted a retrospective of her work in 2019, and in 2021, they published a book of her paintings titled, "Kim Novak: Her Art and Life."

On her philosophy about being a celebrity, Kim said, "When you're inside of the person someone is looking at, you're not looking from their perspective. They may see you as a sex symbol, but that's not how you see yourself." Oh, to be rich, famous and beautiful... what a curse!

Couch Theater

"Babylon" (R) -- Available to stream now is Academy-Award-winning director Damien Chazelle's latest cinematic stunner. Starring Margot Robbie and Brad Pitt, "Babylon" takes viewers back to Hollywood during the time of the late 1920s, as the transition from making silent films to sound films begins. Through the lives of vibrant and flawed characters, we see the fantastical circumstances it can take to get the perfect shot for a film, as well as all the debauchery that happens behind the scenes in a town like Hollywood. Chazelle does an excellent job of capturing the pure passion and utter chaos behind filmmaking, and the film itself feels like one long, outrageous night out that you'll never forget. (Paramount+)

"Daisy Jones & the Six" (TV-16+) -- Based on the novel written by Taylor Jenkins Reid, this new miniseries takes place in the 1970s and follows young musician Daisy Jones (played by Riley Keough) right as she gets paired up with a blues-rock

band called The Six. The chemistry Daisy experiences with the band and its lead singer Billy (Sam Claflin) is so palpable that it propels them into stardom quickly. But as their musical chemistry begins to bleed into their personal lives, the band experiences obstacles that inevitably lead to its downfall. The first three episodes are out now, with the subsequent seven episodes releasing weekly throughout the month of March. (Prime Video)

"Rain Dogs" (NR) -- Single mother Costello and her daughter, Iris, get evicted from their home, leaving Costello at a loss about where to go. In what is surely divine intervention, Costello's wealthy friend, Selby, has just been released from prison, and he offers her a way out. Well used to his handouts, Costello decides to move into Selby's home in the countryside with Iris, and the three oddballs begin to form their own sort of family. But as the days go on, Costello comes to the realization that Selby isn't the best influence for them

and that it's ultimately up to her to step up and provide for her daughter. The first episode of this British drama-comedy series is out now, with more episodes coming every Monday thereafter. (HBO Max)

"UnPrisoned" (TV-MA) -- Kerry Washington has a new series hitting Hulu on March 10. Washington stars as Paige, a licensed marriage and family therapist with a teen son named Finn. Paige's father, Edwin, is getting out of prison after 17 years behind bars, which forces Paige to accept him crashing at her home while he gets back on his feet. At first, the relationship between Paige, Edwin and Finn isn't the strongest, but a doubtful Paige starts to welcome the bonuses of having Edwin around to shake things up. A sweet and simple family comedy series at 30 minutes per episode, "UnPrisoned" is a far cry from Washington's previous dramatic shows "Scandal" and "Little Fires Everywhere." (Hulu)

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: My son is reading the play "12 Angry Men" in his English class. I recall seeing the movie, starring Henry Fonda, years ago. Did it win any Oscars? -- J.K.

A: "12 Angry Men" was originally written as a one-hour live play to be broadcasted for television by Reginald Rose, the son of a lawyer who grew up in New York City. Henry Fonda saw the legal drama and offered to co-produce it as a motion picture in 1957. It wasn't a box-office hit, but it was critically acclaimed and nominated for several Oscars, including Best Picture.

In 1997, it was once again created as a television event, this time starring Jack Lemmon in Fonda's role of Juror No. 8 and George C. Scott, the latter of whom won an Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actor.

In some recent exciting news, the original film is being released on a special 4K Blu-ray with a brand-new HDR/Dolby Vision Master and an audio commentary by film historians Gary Gerani and Drew Casper. The package will also include a

making-of documentary, the film's theatrical trailer and a featurette titled "Inside the Jury Room."

Don't worry, just because it's in 4K doesn't mean they're colorizing the original. According to Collider.com, "This legal drama, which already has some really rich shadow work and black levels, has a lot of potential to look stunning in 4K. '12 Angry Men' now joins the ever-growing list of classic black-and-white films in the format that includes 'To Kill a Mockingbird' and 'Psycho.'"

Q: Is Sally Field going to be starring in anymore movies soon? I saw that she was in "80 for Brady," so I hope that means she's back. -- U.J.

A: The two-time Academy-Award-winning actress Sally Field was recently honored by the Screen Actors Guild with a Lifetime Achievement Award. She's had a long, storied career in Hollywood since she was a teen and has maintained a reputation as one of the nicest people in the business. Her early TV roles in "Gidget"

and "The Flying Nun" showcased her charm, but once she graduated to film with more meaty, dramatic roles, she was honored by her peers and critics alike.

She's swung back and forth between comedy and drama during her six-decade-long career, including "Smokey and the Bandit," "Steel Magnolias" and "Forrest Gump." She's even tried her hand at superhero movies, having played Peter Parker's Aunt May in the two "Amazing Spider-Man" films. The 76-year-old actress signed with a new agency in 2021, so it doesn't look like she plans to retire anytime soon.

Q: I was thrilled to see that "The Blacklist" is back on TV. Is it true that this is the final season, though? -- P.J.

A: Yes, the 10th and final season of NBC's "The Blacklist" premiered on Feb. 26, but it'll have plenty of content to be enjoyed for months to come. Even though it didn't start up last fall, the network granted it a full-season order of 22 episodes. James Spader and the rest of the cast will bid us farewell after this season.

• Trivia Test •

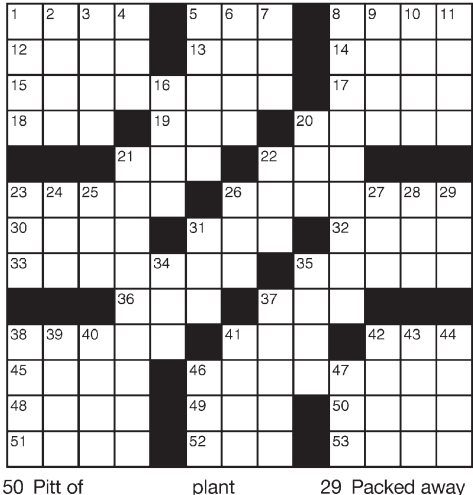
1. FOOD & DRINK: Which U.S. city is known for its square pizzas with crunchy corners?
2. TELEVISION: Which character became a fugitive in the final season of "The Office"?
3. GEOGRAPHY: Which of the Great Lakes lies entirely within the United States?
4. LITERATURE: Which famous novelist wrote his last book in crayon due to poor eyesight?
5. GAMES: What are the two most valuable letters in Scrabble?
6. MOVIES: Which movie series features a character named Ellen Ripley?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a "schwa"?
8. GENERAL KNOWL-

- EDGE: Which nation is credited for being the top beer-drinking country in the world?
9. ANATOMY: What is a common name for the axilla?
 10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What do you call an ant's home?
- Answers
1. Detroit.
 2. Creed Bratton.
 3. Lake Michigan.
 4. James Joyce.
 5. Q and Z (10 points each).
 6. "Alien."
 7. Unstressed vowel represented by an upside-down "e."
 8. Czech Republic.
 9. Armpit.
 10. A nest or fornicary.
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Two-wheeler
- 5 Bumped into
- 8 Pack (down)
- 12 Ireland
- 13 Peyton's brother
- 14 "The Time Machine" people
- 15 Octopus arm
- 17 Lunch hour
- 18 Request
- 19 IV measures
- 20 Must-haves
- 21 Chai, e.g.
- 22 Vagrant
- 23 More recent
- 26 Goddess of wisdom
- 30 Tehran's country
- 31 Sly one
- 32 Tidy
- 33 Workshop cutter
- 35 Rock
- 36 Very long time
- 37 Possesses
- 38 Brainy
- 41 Small barrel
- 42 "The Wedding Planner" actress, to fans
- 45 New York's -- Field
- 46 Bicycle type
- 48 N. Mex. neighbor
- 49 -- Lingus



DOWN

- 1 Test version
- 2 Enrages
- 3 Neck problem
- 4 Tolkien creature
- 5 Pilgrimage site
- 6 Building wings
- 7 Dead heat
- 8 Some urban homes
- 9 Medicinal plant
- 10 Disposition
- 11 Bowling targets
- 16 Computer brand
- 20 Convent manager
- 21 Prepare meat for cooking
- 22 Beiderbecke of jazz
- 23 Pen tip
- 24 Mound stat
- 25 Pallid
- 26 Trim the grass
- 27 Old
- 28 Oldsmobile
- 28 Moving day rental
- 29 Packed away
- 31 Summer cooler
- 34 Drunkard
- 35 Droops
- 37 Ford or Hudson
- 38 Ella's style
- 39 Surrealist
- 40 Bickering
- 41 Fall (over)
- 42 Ryan of "Boston Public"
- 43 Tragic king
- 44 Probability
- 46 Light touch
- 47 "Frontline" ailer

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Member
FDIC

Brought to you each week by

FIRST STATE BANK

Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* Believe it or not, cows can be potty trained -- and, it is said, with less trouble than toddlers. It's called MooLoo training, and involves not a toilet, but a special pen with artificial grass. But why bother? The practice helps the environment by reducing air and water pollution and even planet warming.

* The J.W. Westcott II is a boat that delivers mail to ships at sea. Operating out of Detroit, it's the only floating zip code in America.

* In 1931, German engineer Richter Raketennrad built a bike with 12 rockets mounted to its back wheel and reached a speed of 90 kph before his invention exploded and threw him off. While that was, sadly, the end of the rocket bike, Raketennrad himself suffered only a few scrapes.

* Kintsugi is the Japanese art of putting broken pottery pieces back together with gold.

* For over a year in the mid-2000s, members of the group Untergrunther broke into the French Pantheon to repair a clock that had been broken for four decades. They later received court time for the effort but were somewhat vindicated when member Jean-Baptiste Viot, a clock restorer, was hired to repair it in 2018 after further neglect.

* Researchers have found that approximately 97% of people are keeping a secret at any given time, with the average person keeping around 13.

* In 2008, a former high school star athlete escaped a crime scene by using Craigslist to hire a dozen identically dressed (and unwitting) civilians to stand at the exact place and time of the arrival of the armored car that he planned to rob.

Thought for the Day: "Challenges are gifts that force us to search for a new center of gravity. Don't fight them. Just find a new way to stand." -- Oprah Winfrey

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

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Happy 21st
Birthday
Michelle!

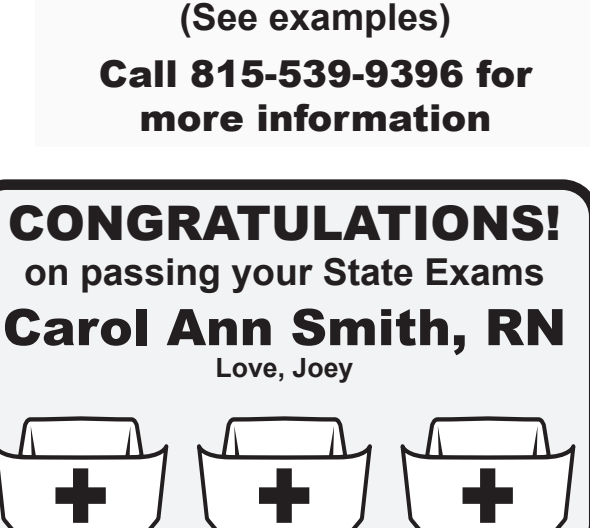
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Billie & Susie

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\$34 To Run In Both

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Or Money Saver
\$34 To
Run In Both

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Love, Joey



LOCAL AND AREA

Illinois earns its 7th credit upgrade in less than 2 years

By PETER HANCOCK
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — S&P Global Ratings announced that it had raised Illinois' long-term credit rating to A-, up from BBB+, marking the seventh upgrade the state has received from a major rating agency in less than two years.

The rating applies to roughly \$27.7 billion in outstanding general obligation, or GO, bonds.

"The upgrade on the GO debt reflects our view that Illinois' commitment and execution to strengthen its budgetary flexibility and stability, supported by accelerating repayment of its liabilities, rebuilding its budget stabilization fund to decade highs; and a slowing of statutory pension funding growth, will likely continue during the outlook period," S&P Global Ratings credit analyst Geoff Buswick said in a news release.

Bonds are a tool that governments and businesses use to borrow money, typically for long-term capital projects such as building construction or other kinds of infrastructure. GO bonds are backed by the government's general taxing authority but other bonds may be backed by more specific revenue sources, such as sales or motor fuel taxes. Higher bond ratings generally mean the borrower — in this case the state — pays lower interest rates.

Before the recent string of upgrades, all three major rating agencies — including Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings — had rated Illinois' bonds at one notch above

"junk" status, the point at which large institutional investors will no longer purchase them.

During the last two years, however, Illinois has used higher-than-expected revenues to pay off its backlog of past-due bills and retire other short-term debt early. In addition, it has set aside \$1.9 billion for the state's budget stabilization fund — commonly known as the "rainy day" fund — and the state is projected to deposit another \$138 million into that fund in the upcoming fiscal year, according to Gov. JB Pritzker's latest budget proposal.

"I am thrilled to see our hard work at righting the past fiscal wrongs of our state reflected in today's action by S&P with another credit rating upgrade — the third such upgrade in just two years," Pritzker said in a statement. "Our continued fiscal responsibility and smart budgeting will save Illinois taxpayers millions from adjusted interest rates, and my partners in the General Assembly and I look forward to building on that success."

In its announcement, S&P credited the state's "deep and diverse economic base" as well as the state government's access to readily available cash, including the rainy day fund and untapped interfund borrowing authority. The agency also said it expects ongoing union contract negotiations to be settled in a timely manner.

Offsetting those factors, S&P said, is the state's high unfunded pension and other postemployment benefit liabilities such as health care. The

agency also dinged Illinois on its practice of releasing annual financial audits later than most other states and population declines, which it warned could impact future economic growth.

S&P said it could further upgrade Illinois' rating if the state continues paying down unfunded pension liabilities and building up its rainy day fund while shrinking its structural deficit. S&P said that deficit was in large part caused by not contributing to its pension funds at actuarially determined levels.

On the other hand, S&P said it could downgrade the state's rating in the future if the structural deficit were to increase due to economic uncertainties or if its pension and other fixed-cost obligations exceed expectations.

Pritzker's recent budget proposal seeks to add an extra \$200 million to the pension fund beyond statutory levels for the current fiscal year.

For now, S&P said the state's near-term credit outlook is "stable."

In addition to upgrading the state's general obligation bond rating, S&P also raised its rating on the state's Build Illinois sales tax bonds to A, up from A-.

(Capitol News Illinois is a non-profit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide, as well as hundreds of radio and TV stations. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.)

NEED A JOB?

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When Bob Jones handed me the "New Business" flag in 1982, the two of us had a lot more hair and little to no confidence in my new endeavor.

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9:00 AM

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Tractors - Combine

1986 Deutz Allis 6275, 2WD, CAH, 5376 hrs., 3 range, 12 forward sp., 4 reverse sp., 2 hyd., 3pt., quick hitch, 540 pto, diff lock, 18.4-30 tires, S/N 77560863; 1982 Deutz DX 130, Powematic, 2WD, CAH, 3757 hrs., 3 range, 12 forward sp., 4 reverse sp., 2 hyd., 3pt., 540/1000 pto, diff lock, 18.4-38 tires, S/N 76320090; Hefty HI-G, diesel, 4 sp high/low, creeper gear, Mitsubishi KE 130 Motor, power steering, front & rear hyd., 12.4-24 tires, w/belly mount & rear cultivators ;Hefty HI- G 540 pto unit; Hefty-G, gas, motor stuck; IH H, NF, 540 pto, belt pulley, S/N 334613; IH H, NF, 540 pto, fenders, S/N 93000; Bobcat ZT 223LC Zero Turn mower, 399 hrs., newer Kohler 26 hp motor, 60" deck; 1978 AC Gleaner F2 Combine, corn soybean special, Hydro-Traction drive, hrs., unknown, gas, 18.4-26 tires, S/N 40531, sells with AC A-438 Corn head and 13' Grain platform w/ running gear.

Equipment

IH 400 Cyclo Air Planter, 6 row, 540 pto, hyd. Markers, dry fert., insect. Boxes, corn & soybean drums, Dickey John monitor; Glencoe 11 shank Soil Saver, spring loaded shanks; Case F 219 Disk 14', 9" spacing; Chain drag 18' w/cart, hyd. lift; JD Van Brunt 10' Grain Drill, w/grass seed, hyd. lift; IH 270 4 bottom plow, spring loaded coulters w/drag; IH 6 row cultivator; Ford 953 Mower 7', 3pt; box scraper 6', w/shanks, 3pt; Knoedler Burr Mill, pto; 7'x14' hayrack; 7'x13' hayrack; 2'x7' & 2'x8' hay feeders; Harley Davidson Golf Cart, electric w/charger, needs batteries; Agri-Fab 45 gal sprayer, 10' booms, pull type, electric; livestock water tanks; tank heaters; Misc. horse equipment; dog huts; 4 1/2' x 6 1/2' Trailer; pet crates; Artic Cat 550 EFI Snowmobile; 1971 Corvette Stingray 350 block.

Shop Equipment - Tools - Misc.

Jet JWP-12DX, deluxe, 12 1/2" wood planer; Jet M-JJ-6CS deluxe, 6" jointer; Delta 10" table saw; Total Shop Dust Collector; Simpson WS 2245 Pressure Washer; Cummings 20 gal, upright Air Compressor; Craftsman 10" radial arm saw, w/cabinet; Craftsman rolling toolbox; Generac MC 4000 Generator; Honda EU 2000i companion 30a Generator; Dyna Pro 170000 Kerosene heater; Stihl MS 250 Chain Saw; Husqvarna 450 Rancher chain saw; Husqvarna 350 chain saw; flammable storage cabinet; 1/2 ton engine stand; Craftsman sand blaster; Heat Buster 45" portable fan; Briggs & Stratton 5.5 hp water pump; Scaffolding: Biljax, adjustable, 6' x 5', (8) sections, (2) planks; Baker Biljax 6', (4) sections; Baker, regular, 6' (10) sections, platform decks; 4' x 6' ladders; (7) stretch planks; set of outriggers for scaffold; misc wheels, cross braces, ladder jacks, stackable Baker sections; wood extension ladders: (1) 32', (2) 28', (2) 24' & (2) 16'. (2) Select-A-Spring storage cabinets w/springs; Ace Taps and Dies cabinet, w/threading tools; Hanson drill bits cabinet w/bits; (2) saw blade cabinets w/saw blades; Hudson cabinet w/sprayer service parts; No. 300 Speedy reseating set; Murry 2hp, 10" rototiller; (4) 15 panel window Oak doors; Yard Machine 6hp, 22" push mower; State 75 gal. water heater (little use); Dewalt power tools & others; hand tools, large assortment of hardware & electrical supplies; lawn & garden tools.

Antiques & Collectibles

Massey-Harris Sales & Service Metal Sign; Couristan, black/rose hand formed rug, 5'x8'; Feizy, Alexis Collection, made in Turkey rug, 10'11" x 7'11"; Weinman sofa, 81"; Zenith upright radio w/tubes, working; walnut Kimball pump organ; oak ornate secretary w/beveled mirror; walnut parlor love seat; mahogany dining room table w/6 chairs; mahogany buffet w/tear drop pulls; stuffed chair; (2) Standard Oil grease barrels; Elliott's Wet Paint Signs; player piano rolls; (2) Jay L Warren Inc., gated compression amplifiers; Chas H Irwin drill bits; Renulife Violet Ray generator; Sylvania Sun Gun movie light; Dayton Hobart bakers scale; (2) Herman Miller vintage plywood chairs & (2) partial Herman Miller vintage plywood chairs; D.H. Baldwin WPP speakers; furniture; misc. furniture.

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New Rebuild Illinois online dashboard provides up-to-date look at historic capital program progress

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Transportation announced the launch of a new web-page dedicated to keeping the public informed of the progress delivering Gov. Pritzker's historic, bipartisan Rebuild Illinois capital program. The online dashboard offers up-to-date cumulative data on accomplishments for improving roads and bridges since the 2019 passage of Rebuild Illinois.

"Rebuild Illinois is delivering lasting, positive improvements to transportation and infrastructure

throughout our state," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. "Our new dashboard is a simple, effective way to share with you details on this transformational capital program in a convenient, transparent format that's easy to understand."

On the dashboard, the public can find information on the number of projects awarded, miles and bridges improved and safety improvements completed, as well as the total amount of investment that has been made possible by Rebuild

Illinois. The data can be looked up annually or by each quarter of each fiscal year, showing the impact of Rebuild Illinois on roads and bridges under IDOT's jurisdiction as well as accomplishments on the local system overseen by counties, municipalities and townships.

The page will be updated on a quarterly basis, adding accomplishments as the year progresses.

To access the dashboard, visit <https://idot.click/rbi-accomplishments>.

The largest capital program in state history and the

first in a decade, Rebuild Illinois is investing \$33.2 billion into all modes of the state's transportation system, with \$25.4 billion identified for roads and bridges, creating jobs, enhancing quality of life and promoting economic growth up and down the state.

Accomplishments through 2022 of Rebuild Illinois included approximately \$9.95 billion of improvements statewide on 4,656 miles of highway, 440 bridges and 656 additional safety improvements.

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LOCAL AND AREA

The gift that brings the greatest joy

Of all the gifts we could ever receive, God's gift of salvation is by far the most amazing and important one. Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast" (NIV).

We are saved by the grace of God through our faith in Him; our faith does not buy our salvation—it merely receives it. As Ephesians 2:8 says, salvation "is

the gift of God." It is impossible to buy a free gift, and this can be hard for us to understand. Our fleshly pride wants to earn and deserve this free gift and take credit for being worthy of it.

But salvation is given to us freely, by God's grace, and the same way we receive Christ's salvation, is the same way we have to live—by grace. God gives us His forgiveness and grace daily; we just have to believe and receive it.

How God Sees You

When God forgives your sins, it means all of your sins: past, present and future. You do not have to be afraid of sin because God has taken care of the problem. This is why the Gospel is such good news!

Some may worry that if we don't fear sin, we will keep sinning on purpose, but that's not true. If you are truly born again and really have a relationship with God, there is a new nature inside of you.

Second Corinthians 5:17 says, "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!"

Now, no one is perfect, and we all make mistakes sometimes. But if the Holy Spirit is living in your spirit through salvation, you won't be comfortable with those mistakes because God's nature is at work in you. The devil would love for us to feel like God is mad at us for our mistakes, but the truth is, God is love and we need to humbly accept His love and grace.

Changed by Grace

In John 15:5, Jesus says, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." I love this scripture because it reminds me that God doesn't expect me to change on my own. He is the power source



and gives us the grace and strength we need to do what's right and make changes in our lives.

Here's how we cooperate with Him, doing what we can do to bring about change:

1. We hear the truth in God's Word and we're convicted by it. It's the Word that shows us who we are and reveals the sin in our lives. We have to realize what we're doing wrong before we can know what needs to change and how.

2. Then we repent of our sin. Being repentant means we're sincerely sorry and willing to turn away from it. (See 1 John 1:9.)

3. The next step is to study the Word in the area we need change. For example, if I have a problem with anger, I need to study scriptures about anger and forgiveness. Use the Word like medicine and take it into your heart and mind. James 1:21 says when God's Word is rooted in our hearts, it "is able to save [our] souls" (NIV). There is power in God's Word to bring change to our souls!

Receive All God Has for You and Enjoy Your Life

To experience God's blessings and enjoy everyday life, we simply need to make the decision to believe Him and His Word more than our thoughts and feelings. The Bible is our instruction manual on how to grow into the new nature He's given us and become who He wants us to be. So take some time each day to read and meditate on scriptures that tell you about God's love for you, who you are and what you have in Christ.

Ephesians 3:17 is a prayer for believers in Christ to be "rooted and established in love" (NIV). God loves you; His will is for you to be His child and receive every blessing He has for you—righteousness, peace, joy, provision of your needs, healing and restoration. In Christ, you have a personal relationship with your Father God, and you can hear from God and be led by the Holy Spirit, who lives in your spirit. In Christ, you have access to God's

grace and strength to do whatever you need to do. Because of God's grace, you can enjoy your life!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching resource The Gift of Everyday Joy. 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 (Faith Words). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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

Real News



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

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Weekend Mass
Confession

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

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

March 12 - Third Sunday in Lent;
9 a.m. Sunday School; 9:30 a.m. Worship

March 14 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Prayer
Walking; 6:30 p.m. Administrative Council

March 15 - 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Sanctuary open
for communion;
6:30 p.m. Confirmation class

ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.
.....

Pastor Jeff Brace
jbrace8459@gmail.com

Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United
Methodist Church

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

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

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



If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

If I can write one verse of truth today
Or give my fellow man a song to sing;
If I can push one needless cloud away
And help men live as children
of the King:

If I can lend someone a helping hand
Or warm a place where friendship
needs to be;

If I can build a bridge where
fences stand

And light a lamp that other men
might see;

If I can open doors of hope this day
By letting someone know that
others care;

If I can speak in words that seem
to say:

I know the heavy burdens that
you bear.

If I can guide a pilgrim on his way
Or pause to bid him stay for food
and rest;

If I can do these, Father, this I pray:
"O let me do them with my very best."

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.....

Brian Kelly, Pastor
www.mendotabiblechurch.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Sunday School
Worship
Evening Service

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

607 Tenth Ave.
(815) 539-5626
.....

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

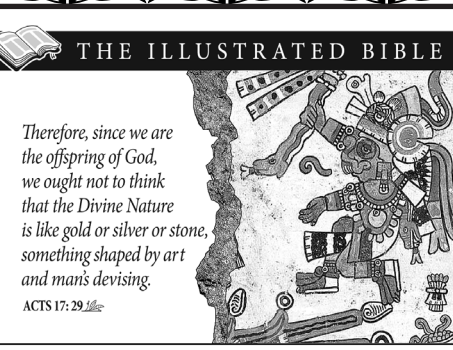
E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

Website:
www.stjohnsmendota.org
Schedule:

9 a.m. Sunday Worship in person
and online via Facebook and Zoom

Find us on Facebook

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



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1003 5th St.
(815) 538-5603
.....

Website: fpcmendota.com
Accessible

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

March 9 - 6:30 p.m. Webelos
March 12 - 9 a.m. Second Sunday

Breakfast; 10 a.m. Worship; 11 a.m.
Fellowship

March 14 - 6:30 p.m. Session

Facebook page

www.facebook.com/fpcmendota

Wednesday Evening Gathering:

Live Zoom at 7 p.m.
https://us02web.zoom.

us/j/86402369150

To call in for audio only, dial
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting
ID: 864 0236 9150

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

CHRIST'S CHURCH

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

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

Dave Manion Jim McDowell
Wayne Shuman

Please join us for . . .

Sunday Bible Study (all ages) 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Church Builders 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 6 p.m.

Men's Ministry

Ladies & Mens Bible Study

Thursday 6 p.m.

Non-denominational

Please call for more information

COMPTON

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

398 Church Road, Compton

Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger

(815) 539-6567

Wheelchair accessible

Website: www.ilccompton.org

E-mail: immanuellutheran
compton@live.com

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel

(Sunday School begins Dec. 4, 9:30)

10:30 a.m. Worship at First

March 8 - 5:30 p.m. Lenten meal at First;
6:30 p.m. Lenten service at First

March 11 - 8-11 a.m. Immanuel & First
volunteer at N.I.C.E.

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



LA MOILLE

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LaMoille (Clarion)

4 miles west of Mendota on Rt. 34

Pastor Ian Griffith

(815) 539-7820

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Accessible

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

La Moille
(815) 638-2348
.....

Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Nursery available

TROY GROVE

FAITH BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

208 W. South St.,

Troy Grove

Pastor Brian Hamiel

.....

Website: www.faithbiblefellowship.info
E-mail: fbfcchurch20817@gmail.com

"At Faith Bible Fellowship, we exist
to glorify God through the equipping
of His saints, teaching of His Word
and raising of His name.

We would love to have you join us
to worship and learn about
our risen Savior."

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9 a.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. In 2 Kings, which prophet's
word caused Syrian soldiers
to be struck blind? Gad, Jubal,
Solomon, Elisha

3. Where were Saul and Jonathan's
bodies nailed to a wall? Troas,
Nob, Beth-shan, Sychar

4. On fleeing from Jezebel, which
prophet hid in a cave? Elijah,
Nathan, Daniel, Amos

5. Which converts burned their
books of magic? Philistines,
Ephesians, Hittites, Canaanites

6. In which book is the phrase,
"Holier than thou"? 1 Kings, Ezra,
Amos, Isaiah

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Elisha, 3)
Beth-shan, 4) Elijah, 5) Ephesians,
6) Isaiah 65:5

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

EUREKA SAVINGS BANK
1300 13th Ave., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-5656

FIRST STATE BANK
706 Washington St., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 538-2265

MENDOTA MONUMENT CO.
606 Main St, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-7276

MERRITT FUNERAL HOME
800 Monroe St., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-7211

SPORTS-N-STUFF, INC.
804 Washington, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-6354

STEPHENITCH DO IT BEST HARDWARE
1204 13th Ave., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-9394

TRIPLE SERVICE, INC.
801 Monroe, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-3828

WASMER FUNERAL HOME
2112 W. Main St., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-8500

ZIGGIE'S RESTAURANT
Rte. 34 East, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-5060



Classified Marketplace

FREE!

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)



MENDOTA • EARLVILLE • LAMOILLE • TRIUMPH • TROY GROVE • SUBLETTE • COMPTON • WEST BROOKLYN • PAW PAW • LELAND • OHIO

101 LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF MENDOTA
ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR PERIOD ENDING 04/22

REVENUE SUMMARY: PROPERTY TAX-CORPORATE \$1,433,296.01 - ROAD & BRIDGE TAX \$127,660.17 - PROPERTY TAX-FIRE PROTECTION \$61,641.97 - PROPERTY TAX-POLICE PROTECTION \$61,641.97 - PROPERTY TAX-AMBULANCE \$61,641.97 - PROPERTY TAX-LIABILITY INSURANCE \$210,002.26 - PROPERTY TAX-STREET LIGHTING \$38,505.42 - PROPERTY TAX-PARKS \$50,004.30 - PROPERTY TAX-PLAYGROUND \$7,496.00 - PROPERTY TAX-ESDA \$35,004.71 - PROPERTY TAX-SCHOOL CROSS GUARD \$16,002.10 - PROPERTY TAX-WORKMAN'S COMP. \$200,008.55 - PROPERTY TAX-AUDIT \$28,552.37 - PROPERTY TAX-IMRF \$50,004.30 - PROPERTY TAX-SOCIAL SECURITY \$60,006.26 - PROPERTY TAX-FIRE PENSION \$355,124.28 - PROPERTY TAX-POLICE PENSION \$1,186,018.15 - FOREIGN FIRE INSURANCE TAX \$12,503.00 - HOTEL/MOTEL TAX \$73,888.09 - TELECOMMUNICATION TAX \$94,949.58 - LIQUOR LICENSES \$22,425.00 - PINBALL & ARCADE LICENSE \$360.00 - DOG LICENSES \$1,640.00 - FRANCHISE LICENSES TV \$89,387.53 - BUILDING PERMITS \$9,421.00 - CONTRACTORS LICENSE \$12,950.00 - VIDEO GAMING TERMINALS LICENSE \$29,850.00 - PEDDLER'S PERMITS \$25.00 - OTHER PERMITS \$400.00 - STATE INCOME TAX \$1,142,157.97 - PERSONAL PROPERTY REPLACEMENT TAX \$250,261.99 - SALES TAX \$2,572,748.01 - SALES TAX AUTO RENTAL \$6,291.92 - LOCAL USE TAX \$277,986.70 - CHARITABLE/TIP GAMES TAX \$1,347.08 - VIDEO GAMING MACHINES TAX \$217,450.42 - CANABIS USE TAX \$11,339.58 - COURT FINES \$2,474,926.28 - PENALTIES GARBAGE \$44,583.90 - GARBAGE COLLECTION REVENUE \$474,677.40 - GARBAGES STICKERS \$186.75 - GARBAGES BAGS \$849.00 - AMBULANCE FEES \$482,457.00 - CONTRACTED FEES POLICE \$791.00 - CONTRACTED FIRE/AMB \$2,941.72 - CONTRACTED FIRE EXTRICATION \$33.75 - FIRE/AMB INTERCEPTS \$3,273.50 - PARKING FINES/ACCIDENT REPORTS \$10,585.00 - BIRTH/DEATH CERTIFICATES \$6,522.00 - MAINTENANCE FEES STATE HWY \$28,547.69 - CITY SERVICES \$13,299.34 - GRANT MONEY \$484,572.02 - TRIDENT DRUG REIMBURSEMENT \$189,088.00 - INTEREST INCOME \$193,925.79 - RENTAL INCOME \$148,877.58 - RENTAL INCOME/INDUSTRIAL PARK \$27,425.00 - RENTAL INCOME/RURAL FIRE \$4,100.00 - RENTAL INCOME/RURAL AMBULANCE \$5,500.00 - RENTAL INCOME/SNYDERS GROVE \$58,163.00 - COMMUNICATIONS TOWER RENTAL \$10,496.46 - WATER DEPT. PROP. MAINT. FEE \$19,260.00 - RENTAL WIXOM FARM \$17,920.00 - DONATIONS \$27,280.00 - INSURANCE CLAIMS/REIMBURSE \$14,842.17 - RESTITUTION \$200.00 - SWIMMING POOL/GATE RECEIPTS \$12,664.58 - PARK RENT \$1,075.00 - SWIMMING POOL/CONCESSIONS \$5,404.00 - ECONOMIC DEV/FARMERS MKRT \$75.00 - ECONOMIC DEV/IL AVE \$1,589.00 - SWIMMING POOL/LESSONS \$2,718.00 - CHAMBER MAINTENANCE FEES \$3,330.00 - MISCELLANEOUS INCOME \$3,987,751.03 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RECEIVABLE \$83,027.97 - LA SALLE CNTY-DRUG \$795.00 - LA SALLE CNTY-FINES \$154.00 - STATE POLICE - FINES \$1,050.00 - DRUG SEIZURE REVENUE \$12,397.00 - BUREAU COUNTY FTA \$70.00 - MOTOR FUEL TAX \$455,378.55 - PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF PROPERTY \$42,366.68 - WATER SALES \$695,810.93 - WATER SALES/CITY \$4,762.50 - WATER SALES/CITY OF MENDOTA \$1,026,047.51 - METER SALES \$497.50 - SERVICE FEE \$1,068,416.54 - SERVICE LINE REPAIR \$20,498.13 - BAR PACKAGE INCOME \$6,021.00 - LINEN INCOME \$1,801.95 - GRATUITIES \$4,107.38 - SPECIAL SERVICE FEES \$7,011.88 - CATERED FOOD SALES \$13,531.44 - BEER SALES \$3,835.90 - WINE SALES \$1,991.58 - LIQUOR SALES \$5,663.59 - SODA/COFFEE SALES \$1,520.68 - IN HOUSE FOOD SALES \$26,348.86 - MOTEL TAX INCOME \$265,015.00 - RENTAL FULL HALL WEEKEND \$15,953.00 - RENTAL FULL BALLROOM/WKDAY \$3,495.00 - RENTAL SECTIONS \$8,724.10 - RENTAL CONFERENCE ROOM \$2,764.00 - RENTAL FEIK PARLOR \$995.00 - RENTAL MISSION ROOM \$2,100.00 - RENTAL PERGOLA \$4,995.00 - RENTAL MASS OFFICE RENTAL \$4,050.00 - UNREALIZED LOSS (GAIN) \$544,062.00CR - REALIZED (GAIN) LOSS \$753,236.00CR - TOTAL REVENUES: \$20,063,824.29.

COMPENSATION SUMMARY: BOELK, DAVID W \$8,000.04 - DAVIS, HEATH \$3,999.96 - ENGEL, ALAN S \$10,199.60 - FITZPATRICK, JAMES F \$7,200.00 - HESSENBERGER, JOHN J \$4,500.00 - HOCHSTATTER, LEO J \$7,200.00 - HOLLAND III, JOHN M \$4,500.00 - JOHNSON, VICKI L \$7,200.00 - KIM, KYLE L \$7,200.00 - MILLER, JAY \$4,500.00 - PEASLEY, MARK E \$4,500.00 - SILFIES, MICHAEL J \$2,039.92 - STROUSS, JAMES \$8,158.56 - BORELLI, RITA R \$51,476.00 - EHLERT, BRIAN \$2,626.12 - EISENBERG, LONNY L \$98,591.22 - FALCON, DANIEL J \$75,458.81 - FISHER, BRIAN L \$100,699.26 - FITZGERALD, TOBY S \$46,065.31 - FOX, SEAN C \$40,156.70 - GONDA, VICTOR J \$77,240.81 - GREEN, RACHEL A \$40,532.74 - GRINKA, MARK R \$57,333.39 - GUELDE, ETHAN \$43,003.00 - HAGEMANN, DALE \$9,589.60 - HANSEN, WILLIAM \$22,964.43 - HERNANDEZ, DANIEL \$67,982.18 - HOCHSTATTER, CHAD R \$63,569.25 - HUFTEL, DALTON J \$27,781.28 - HUNT, ZACHARY \$53,429.56 - KACKERT, TAMMY L \$48,754.82 - KAMMERER, LUCAS \$11,526.49 - KELLEN, GREG S \$109,562.20 - KENT, TYLER \$82,433.49 - KIM, NATHANIAL \$55,459.52 - KIMREY, TIMOTHY D. \$107,518.40 - LETTERLY, WENDY L \$51,476.00 - MARTIN, BRADLEY S \$72,634.00 - MARTIN JR, SETH \$68,901.85 - CRONNIN-MCCONVILLE, EMILY J \$68,876.96 - MCPHEETERS, KEVIN D. \$100,567.20 - MCSTOOTS, JASON \$13,777.09 - MCWADE, MARY E \$5,275.26 - MYERS, JOHN R \$82,482.19 - O'SADNICK, AUSTIN \$3,184.47 - OSCEPINSKI, AMY E \$78,765.88 - PETERSEN, PAUL D \$73,248.51 - PHALEN, JASON B \$65,180.27 - PRATHER, JACKSON \$42,544.69 - RAYA, JOSE DE JESUS \$37,883.38 - RUTISHAUSER, BRADY \$83,321.37 - RUTISHAUSER, DENNIS J \$118,375.47 - SARVER, JOSHUA S \$93,614.87 - SETCHELL, JUSTIN \$88,540.88 - STREMLAU, NICHOLAS \$80,857.49 - TUCKER JR, RANDY \$77,693.91 - URBANSKI, ZACHARY S \$69,126.75 - YUCUS, ABRAM \$51,499.71 - BARRETT, AMANDA \$1,356.00 - BARKMAN, KAYLEE L \$1,399.75 - BECKER, MADELYN \$1,801.50 - BENTLEY, BENJAMIN J \$9,906.75 - BLAIR, KIMBERLY A \$28.00 - BOELK, BRAYDON \$1,164.50 - BOELK, MADISYN \$5,626.75 - BOELK, MYAH N \$3,383.75 - BOELK, MARLIE \$4,475.03 - BOKUS, ANNA L \$1,176.25 - BURNETT, BARNEY J \$9,523.00 - BURKE, CATHY K \$13,931.97 - CESSNA, ROBERT P \$66,456.00 - CHAON, PATRICIA A \$2,822.00 - CHRISTMAN, HOLLY A \$10,416.57 - DAGENAIS, JEFFREY \$3,424.45 - DEFORE, MARY E \$2,589.75 - DELONG, NOAH M \$5,590.75 - DENK, JANET M \$3,111.10 - EHLERT, BRIAN \$5,017.13 - ESCATEL, UVALDO \$174.26 - FEURER, TIMOTHY C \$18.42 - FURAR, MICHAEL R \$5,984.00 - GUZMAN, ISAAC A \$2,232.50 - HAMMEN, MICHAEL A \$62,080.00 - HERMOSILLO, ASHLEY \$1,942.00 - HORNUNG, BRANDON \$10,029.32 - HUNT, KEVIN M \$3,184.50 - JACKSON, JACOB \$789.25 - JANSEN, CHERYL L \$765.64 - JONES, AVA \$2,645.75 - JOYCE, TAYLOR R \$704.00 - KACKERT, TAMMY L \$4,800.00 - KESSEL, WHITNEY M \$738.20 - KLECKNER, GLENN \$1,428.00 - KREWER, RYAN J \$10,691.01 - LASHONSE, JOSEPH \$11,855.25 - LEE, JULIE A \$955.44 - LEE, LANDON \$89.26 - LEIFHEIT, LILLY \$2,411.50 - MARTIN, LAUREN \$1,373.50 - MARTIN, MAYA \$3,968.77 - MARKS, PAIGE \$1,110.00 - MARTINEZ, ROBERTO \$55.26 - MARTINSON, TWILA \$1,197.00 - MC CONVILLE, MEREDITH \$6,121.75 - MIKOLASEK, MADISON \$1,475.25 - MORRIS, ERIC L. \$1,695.70 - MYERS, CONNIE S \$3,357.00 - NANEZ, DEREK \$10,987.63 - NEEDS, BARBARA \$240.85 - NOVAK, KASEN \$11,993.25 - NYE, CHRISTOPHER \$36.84 - PIZANO-OLSON, MACY \$1,373.50 - PECHER, ASHLEY \$5,852.64 - PERRYMAN, AARON \$3,354.37 - PHALEN, ABBY L \$2,309.25 - PONTO, RICHARD \$336.00 - REEDER, BRENNAN T \$374.30 - ROMERO, RAFAEL \$3,442.75 - SESSLER, GAIL \$93.00 - SHRIMPLIN, STACI \$1,440.48 - SONDDGEROTH, RYLEIGH \$1,852.00 - STEWART, KALEB \$467.66 - STUART, ERICA S \$999.75 - THULEN, CLINT M \$61,680.00 - TODD, CHAD M \$580.96 - TOLLEY, NATHAN F \$7,239.44 - TUCKER JR,

RANDY D \$504.90 - WASMER, GRACE \$2,181.00 - WEST, GARY D \$238.56 - WILLOUGHBY, ASHLEY N \$3,515.37 - TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$3,218,948.89.

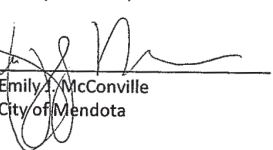
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY: 11TH STREET NURSERY \$4,106.00 - A.R.S. \$17,195.08 - ARCHER DANIELS MIDLAND CO \$274,490.56 - ADVANCED ASPHALT \$74,118.00 - ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$9,577.06 - AEP ENERGY \$231,440.48 - AIRGAS USA, LLC \$3,629.94 - ALTORFER INDUSTRIES \$4,549.27 - AMERICAN MACHINE \$6,393.96 - AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE \$6,463.58 - ARAMARK/AUCA CHICAGO MC L \$3,128.09 - ELIZABETH ARKELS \$3,042.26 - ARTHUR J GALLAGHER RISK M \$9,335.00 - AT&T MOBILITY \$12,594.13 - Attorneys' Title Guaranty \$204,802.43 - BADGER METER INC \$3,360.00 - BARBECK COMMUNICATIONS \$38,133.40 - BARCO PRODUCTS COMPANY \$7,941.48 - BASIL CONSTRUCTION \$14,991.00 - BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD \$688,674.78 - BROWNLEE DATA SYSTEMS \$5,700.00 - CITY OF MENDOTA BOND ACCO \$150,308.19 - BONNELL INDUSTRIES INC \$81,424.26 - BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC \$3,352.01 - BRANIFF COMM. INC \$3,840.00 - BRENTAG MID-SOUTH INC \$9,289.75 - BREWER COMPANY \$2,755.00 - C.O.P.S. TESTING SERVICE \$8,885.00 - CARGILL SALT INC \$55,375.40 - CARRIAGE HOUSE ELECTRIC \$15,975.38 - CARUS LLC \$85,608.67 - CHAMLIN & AS-SOC \$113,617.39 - MENDOTA AREA CHAMBER OF C \$4,618.00 - CHASE CARD SERVICES \$4,359.84 - CHASTAIN & ASSOCIATES LLC \$20,278.40 - CHEMCO INDUSTRIES \$3,736.05 - CIVIC CENTER/MANAGERS ACC \$3,700.00 - CITY OF MENDOTA/WATER DEP \$1,069,303.72 - CITY OF MENDOTA/GENERAL F \$1,402,616.51 - CITY OF MENDOTA-HEALTH \$10,645.08 - MENDOTA CIVIC CENTER \$15,444.00 - CLEGG-PERKINS ELECTRIC \$16,574.05 - LA SALLE COUNTY COLLECTOR \$24,101.87 - COMCAST \$6,374.05 - COMED \$70,081.54 - COMPLETE INTEGRATION & SV \$21,036.50 - TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT REV \$4,513.30 - COMMERCIAL MECHANICAL SER \$12,087.23 - NORTHERN PARTNERS COOP \$104,768.52 - COSGROVE DISTRIBUTORS \$2,776.57 - COUNTRY CATERING \$9,172.95 - CROSS BODY SHOP \$5,287.35 - CURRAN MATERIALS COMPANY \$10,590.05 - D CONSTRUCTION INC \$530,850.89 - DANCOC CONST \$3,540.00 - DEUCHLER/DIV OF FEHR GRAH \$531,043.00 - STEPHENITCH DO IT BEST HA \$10,063.72 - IDPH VITAL RECORDS \$3,312.00 - DRYDON EQUIPMENT \$9,664.00 - DTN CORPORATION \$4,752.00 - DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICE \$18,706.51 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROU \$8,783.80 - THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT \$19,055.00 - ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RES \$2,870.00 - EUREKA SAVINGS \$420,000.00 - CONSTELLATION NEW ENERGY \$6,016.95 - FEHR GRAHAM \$128,547.48 - FERGUSON WATERWORKS #2516 \$18,742.80 - FICEK ELECTRIC & COMMUNIC \$2,694.76 - FLOW-TECHNICS \$5,752.81 - FIRE PENSION FUND \$33,135.35 - FRIENDS OF THE TRACK FUND \$10,000.00 - FIRST STATE BANK \$857,177.00 - FITNESS FACTORY \$16,560.55 - GASVODA & ASSOCIATES \$18,659.94 - GETZ FIRE EQUIPMENT \$5,520.20 - GRAVES HUME PUBLIC LIBRAR \$36,920.94 - GRAINCO FS, INC \$2,807.08 - FRONTIER \$20,296.13 - GUILFOYLE LAW FIRM \$21,318.80 - H&H BUILDERS \$4,930.00 - HACH COMPANY \$8,042.39 - CORE & MAIN LP \$3,778.60 - HFS BUREAU OF FISCAL OPER \$29,938.12 - PRAIRIE STATE TRACTOR \$20,979.25 - HOTSY EQUIPMENT CO \$9,916.60 - I.U.O.E. LOCAL 150 \$13,684.44 - IFIBER \$12,000.00 - ILLINOIS FRATERNAL ORDER \$7,021.55 - DINGES FIRE COMPANY \$14,021.75 - ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PR

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION					
	GENERAL FUND	2% FIRE FUND	STATE DRUG FUND	FIRE DEPT FUND	POLICE SMB DEPT FUND
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$2,265,963.23	\$24,616.82	\$444,697.07	\$47,743.38	\$9,194.26
Revenues	\$7,723,312.44	\$12,503.00	\$11,056.00	\$15,173.00	\$0.00
Expenditures	\$6,371,982.30	\$227,924.00	\$227,924.00	\$22,037.00	\$5,930.00
Other Fin. Sources	\$83,027.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$3,682,003.34	\$9,678.82	\$227,829.07	\$40,879.38	\$6,558.26
	DUI FUND	MOTOR FUEL TAX	TIF DIST. I	TIF VII IND. PK. A	TIF VII IND. PK. B
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$31,077.53	\$564,073.65	\$1,943,126.64	\$836,509.57	\$3,227.50
Revenues	\$5,417.00	\$459,982.30	\$1,078,553.48	\$205,988.88	\$3.22
Expenditures	\$30,054.00	\$298,247.95	\$281,648.14	\$121,479.08	\$0.00
Other Fin. Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$446,561.02	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$6,440.53	\$725,808.00	\$2,293,470.96	\$921,019.37	\$3,230.72
	TIF 2017A SRWP	TIF 2017B ADM	LASALLE CO VEHICLE	BOND ISSUE FUND	WATER FUND
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$39,645.78CR	\$229,397.06CR	\$442.10CR	\$23,000.68CR	\$8,760,773.50
Revenues	\$210.00	\$773,366.37	\$154.00	\$150,536.62	\$5,419,055.33
Expenditures	\$4,687.95	\$495,873.10	\$2.00	\$147,575.00	\$1,065,956.11
Other Fin. Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uses	\$62.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$325,385.00
Ending Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$44,186.31CR	\$48,096.21CR	\$290.10CR	\$20,039.06CR	\$12,788,487.82
	SEWER FUND	CIVIC CENTER	CAPITAL EQUIP FUND	FIRE PENSION FUND	POLICE PENSION FUND
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$3,483,492.99	\$264,111.63CR	\$566,664.47	\$4,055,547.54	\$8,550,481.38
Revenues	\$1,425,727.81	\$135,910.68	\$20,164.40	\$249,900.00	\$1,083,402.00
Expenditures	\$874,457.23	\$173,793.94	\$49,722.50	\$183,539.00	\$658,623.00
Other Fin. Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,366.68	\$305,708.00CR	\$991,590.00CR
Uses	\$172,322.00	\$4,604.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$3,843,101.57	\$306,598.89CR	\$579,473.05	\$3,816,200.54	\$7,983,670.38
	ECONOMIC DEV. FUND				
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$2,097,998.75				
Revenues	\$18,554.11				
Expenditures	\$0.00				
Other Fin. Sources	\$0.00				
Uses	\$0.00				
Ending Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$2,116,552.86				

The aforewritten is a true and correct statement of the various City funds of the City of Mendota, Illinois for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2022, and an accurate state of the Treasury as of April 30, 2022.


Heath Davis, Treasurer

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand as said City Clerk and affixed hereto the Corporate Seal of the said City of Mendota, County of LaSalle, State of Illinois, this 8th day of March, 2023.


Emily J. McConville
City of Mendota



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE OF TIMESHARE ESTATE OR ESTATES UNDER SECTION 10-50 OF THE ILLINOIS REAL ESTATE TIMESHARE ACT OF 1999

By virtue of 770 ILCS 103/10-15 et. seq and in execution of certain mortgages on the timeshare estates given by the owners of the timeshare estates set forth below for breach of the conditions of said mortgages and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at public auction starting at 11 o'clock a.m. on March 28, 2023, at the east entrance of Etna Road Government Complex, 707 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL 61350, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgages.

Each timeshare estate is a 1.923% and/or 0.9615% undivided interest (each, a "Unit") as tenant-in-common at Fox River Resort, a vacation ownership project in LaSalle County, Illinois, as per the recorded plat(s) thereof and according to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Restrictions, Covenants and Conditions recorded under File No. R2000-31258 and any Supplemental Declarations recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, LaSalle County, Illinois, as supplemented and amended from

time to time (the "Declaration"), together with the exclusive right to occupy the Unit during the designated Use Period Number(s), as said Use Period is defined in the Declaration, upon and subject to all of the terms, restrictions, covenants, conditions and provisions in the Declaration.

LILIANA GUTIERREZ, JOSE BELVIS AND LOURDES VAZQUEZ, 5 RES VILLA DEL CARIBE, PONCE, PUERTO RICO 00728, according to the Mortgage dated August 02, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013 18531, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 20, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 00790, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 2

LILIANA GUTIERREZ, JOSE BELVIS AND LOURDES VAZQUEZ, 5544 S NEVA AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60638, according to the Mortgage dated August 02, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013 18531, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 20, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 00790, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 2

5920 W 55TH ST APT 104, CHICAGO, IL 60638, according to the Mortgage dated August 02, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013 18531, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 20, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 00790, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 2

PATRICIA COOPER and JOSEPH J COOPER, 8232 S PEORIA ST APT 2, CHICAGO, IL 60620, according to the Mortgage dated April 27, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014 09237, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 20, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0415, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 7

JOYCE EVANS-CURTIS and JOYCE EVANS, 13314 S KEDVALE AVE, ROBBINS, IL 60472, according to the Mortgage dated June 11, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 12185, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 30, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0095, Use Period Number(s) 31, Phase 2

ANS, 3300 HUDSONWOOD DR APT 1117, DENTON, TX 76208, according to the Mortgage dated June 11, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 12185, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 30, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0095, Use Period Number(s) 31, Phase 2

VIOLET E MORRELL, 605 E MAIN ST, STOCKBRIDGE, MI 49285, according to the Mortgage dated May 07, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014 09835, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 28, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0425, Use Period Number(s) 32, Phase 7

JESSICA STALLING, STARLEAN PASHA, IZONE PASHA, OLIVIA PASHA AND FAHEEM PASHA, 6776 CHALLENGE LN, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46250, according to the Mortgage dated January 25, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 02582, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 01390, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2

Phase 2 JESSICA STALLING, STARLEAN PASHA, IZONE PASHA, OLIVIA PASHA AND FAHEEM PASHA, 602 POPLAR ST, MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360, according to the Mortgage dated January 25, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 02582, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 01390, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2 JESSICA STALLING, STARLEAN PASHA, IZONE PASHA, OLIVIA PASHA AND FAHEEM PASHA, 331 WALKER ST, MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360, according to the Mortgage dated January 25, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 02582, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 01390, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2 JESSICA STALLING, STARLEAN PASHA, IZONE PASHA, OLIVIA PASHA AND FAHEEM PASHA, 510 S 28TH ST, SOUTH BEND, IN 46615, according to the Mortgage dated January 25, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 02582, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 01390, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2

February 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 01390, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2 JESSICA STALLING, STARLEAN PASHA, IZONE PASHA, OLIVIA PASHA AND FAHEEM PASHA, 515 E 8TH ST, MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360, according to the Mortgage dated January 25, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 02582, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 01390, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2 TERMS OF SALE: At the time and location noted above, the timeshare estates listed above will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash. The timeshare estates will be sold in individual lots unless there are no individual bidders, in which case, they may be sold as a group. In the event the holder of the mortgages or its authorized agent is the purchaser of one or more of the timeshare estates, the holder of the mortgages or its authorized agent may offset against the purchase price of the timeshare estate(s) an amount equal to all or a portion of the amount due under the mortgage(s) (and thus, credit bid). Other terms may be announced at the public auction.

Silverleaf Resorts, LLC, A Texas Limited Liability Company
By: Deborah A. Quirk
Its: Agent
No. 0302
(March 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

NOTICE TO BID

Mendota High School is accepting bids to reseal the asphalt parking lot behind the school and the asphalt at the athletic stadium

um this summer. Bid specs are available by contacting Superintendent Jeff Prusator 815-539-7446 or jprusator@mendotahs.org. Sealed bids should be returned to MHS no later than 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 6, 2023. No. 0303 (March 1 and 8, 2023)

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on February 24, 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 Ricci's Auto located at 232 S. Clark Street, Utica, IL 61373. Dated: February 24, 2023. Richard L. Ricci Applicant. No. 0305 (March 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

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

ESTATE OF
)
)
Theresa M. Myers,
)
)
Deceased
Case No. 2023-PR-34
)
)

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Theresa M. Myers of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on February 17, 2023 to Margaret Halbmaier of 905 Monroe Street, Mendota, IL 61342 and Patrick Myers of 4463 E. 1st Rd., Mendota, IL 61342 whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the LaSalle County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before

September 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. 0306 (March 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on February 21, 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 Salinas Mexican Food located at 1001 4th Avenue, Mendota, IL 61342. Dated: February 21, 2023. Raul Salinas Applicant. No. 0307 (March 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, OTTAWA, IL PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

)
)
)
NORMA J. SCHWAMBERGER,
DECEASED.)
NO. 2023-PR-000029

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Norma J. Schwamberger on August 1, 2022, whose address was 303 Garfield Road, LaSalle, IL 61301, Letters of Office were issued February 17, 2023 to Hometown National Bank, 260 Bucklin Street, LaSalle, IL 61301, as Independent Administrator, who

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2021 Chevrolet K-1500, Crew LT 4x4 Z71, Leather, 39K Miles, Maroon.....	\$42,900	2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew, 4x4 High Country, Loaded, 71K Miles, Black.....	\$41,900
2020 Chevrolet Suburban, 4x4, LT , Loaded, 65K Miles, Blue.....	\$46,900	2018 Chevy Equinox FWD Premier, 47K Miles, Tan	\$24,900
2019 Chevrolet K-1500, Crew LT, 4x4, 44K Miles, Black.....	\$36,900		

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2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, Long Box, LT, 4x4, 99K Miles, Red.....	\$37,900	2018 Chevrolet Traverse Premier, AWD, Sunroof, 79K Miles, Black.....	\$28,900
2019 Chevrolet K-1500 Crew, LT 4x4, 85K Miles, White.....	\$31,900	2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71, 128K Miles, Red.....	\$23,900
2019 Chevy 1500 Dbl Cab RST, 4WD, Z71, Gray.....	\$28,900	2012 Ram 1500 Reg Cab Sport Hemi, 4WD, Black.....	\$14,900
2018 GMC Sierra 1500 Crew Cab, 4X4, SLT, 103K Miles, Blue.....	\$29,000		



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attorneys are Schweickert Ganassin Krzak Rundio, LLP, 2101 Marquette Road, Peru, IL 61354.

The estate will be administered without Court Supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Circuit Court Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of Clerk of the Circuit Court, 119 W. Madison Street, Ottawa, Illinois, or with the representative within six (6) months of the first publication of this notice, any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Court Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney, if any, within 10 days after it has been filed with the Circuit Court Clerk. Heirs and Legatees are hereby further given notice of their rights: (1) to a copy of all documents of record, by request directed to the Clerk of the Court or to the Executor c/o counsel listed below; (2) to petition the Court within 42 days of admission of the will to probate to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will or other evidence; (3) to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition within 6 months after admission of the Will to probate; and (4) to petition to terminate independent admission and/or to hold a hearing to resolve any question that may arise during independent administration; and (5) to question or object to any item included in or omitted from an inventory or account, or to require same. These rights are more fully set forth in the Illinois Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-1 et seq. All filings are to be electronically submitted, with copy to the undersigned, unless electronic filing is excused for cause shown. 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>. Dated: February 24, 2023

Greg Vaccaro
LaSalle County Circuit Clerk
Ottawa, IL 61350
Schweickert Ganassin Krzak Rundio, LLP
2101 Marquette Road
Peru, IL 61354
TEL: 815.223.0177
EMAIL: djs@ganassin.com

No. 0308
(March 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 289, LASALLE, LEE AND BUREAU COUNTIES, ILLINOIS TO SELL NOT TO EXCEED \$3,100,000 WORKING CASH FUND BONDS

Public Notice is Hereby Given that Community Consolidated School District Number 289, LaSalle, Lee and Bureau Counties, Illinois (the "District"), will hold a public hearing on the 16th day of March, 2023, at 6:30 o'clock P.M. The hearing will be held at Blackstone School, 1309 Jefferson Street, Mendota, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds of the District in the amount of not to exceed \$3,100,000 for the purpose of increasing the working cash fund of the District. By order of the President of the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District Number 289, LaSalle, Lee and Bureau Counties, Illinois. Dated the 16th day of February, 2023.

Holli Rapp Secretary, Board of Education, Community Consolidated School District Number 289, LaSalle, Lee and Bureau Counties, Illinois No. 0309 (March 8, 2023)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION NO. 2023-JD-22
TO: Alfred Evans, Unknown Fathers, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:
Take notice that on the 6th day of March, 2023 a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by Vicki L. Denny, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Alfred J. Evans, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 110 at Ottawa, Illinois on the 11th day of April, 2023, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an Adjudicatory Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor. Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgement entered. Dated March 6, 2023

Greg Caccaro
Clerk
No. 0310
(March 8, 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 fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMANS 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.

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

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315 WANTED TO BUY

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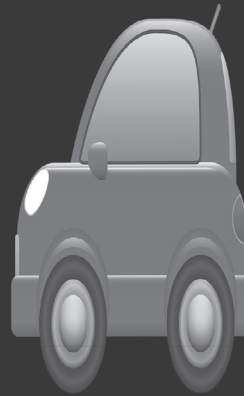


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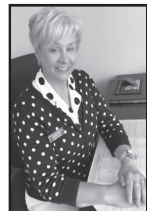


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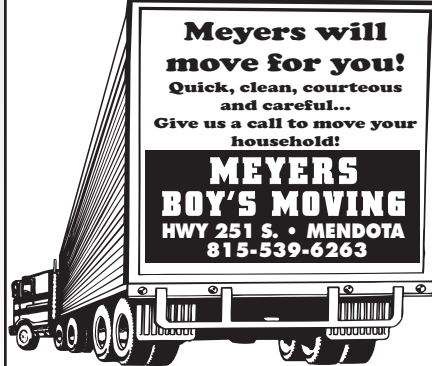
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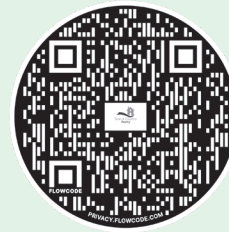
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