

The Road to Success

SECTION 1

FEATURING:

- **Black Bros. Co.**
- **City of Mendota**
- **Eureka Savings Bank**
- **Financial Plus Credit Union**
- **HCC, Inc.**
- **Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce**
- **Mendota High School District 280**
- **Sullivan's Foods**



Black Bros. Co. - A small-town, family-owned manufacturer

Black Bros. Co., Mendota's oldest manufacturing firm, takes great pride in the fact it continues to operate as a small-town, family-owned manufacturer of quality American machines in a day and age when such businesses are becoming harder and harder to come by.

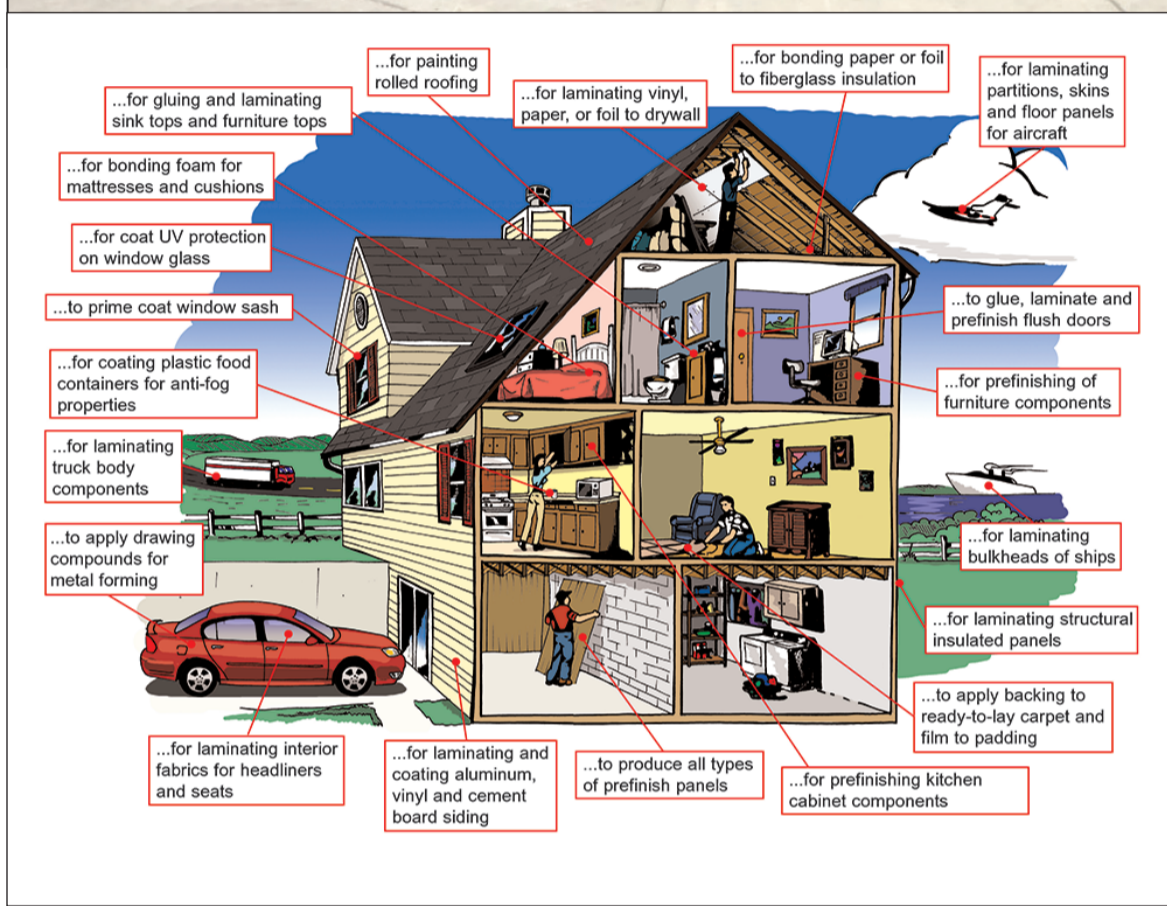
In fact, with roots in town dating back to the turn of the 20th century, the Black family torch is now being handed off to the sixth generation as Assistant Plant Manager Evan Carroll readies to take the reins from current CEO Matt Carroll.

Founded in 1882 in Lanark, Scotland by William Black and his five sons — William Jr., John, James, Walter and David — the brothers relocated the company across seas to Chicago in 1884 and later settled in Mendota in 1900. "The World's Greatest Little City" was picked based on its centralized location to the growing woodworking industry in the region and its prime railroad access.

Since that time Black Bros. Co. has remained profitable by staying true to its values: innovative engineering, impeccable manufacturing, and dedicated service. And, through the years the people of Black Bros. also have been committed to the Mendota community, including numerous past Chamber of Commerce presidents and volunteers across a multitude of civic and youth organizations. Manufacturers who use Black Bros. equipment include producers of furniture, kitchen cabinets, doors, windows, wall paneling, ceiling and floor tile, electronics, and automobiles to name a few.



The Black Bros. Co. Team



Manufacturers who use Black Bros. equipment include producers of furniture, kitchen cabinets, doors, windows, wall paneling, ceiling and floor tile, electronics, and automobiles to name a few.

Family
Owned
Six
Generations
Strong

BB
140[®]
YEARS

World-Class Machinery
Proudly Made In Mendota, IL

BBCO Headquarters, 2023

BLACK BROS. CO.

www.blackbros.com • 815.539.7451

BBCO Headquarters, 1907

Founder



William Black

The original "Black brothers" (2nd Generation)



James Black, David Black, John Black Sr., Walter Black, William Black Jr.

3rd Generation



Robert Black, John Black Jr.

4th Generation



Marjorie and James Black-Carroll

5th-6th Generations



Matthew Carroll, Evan Carroll

Mendota Chamber of Commerce benefits members, community in many ways

The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce benefits its members – and the community – in many ways. The Chamber provides an up-to-date website, sponsorship of the annual Sweet Corn Festival and many other events and programs that help to enhance business and community life in Mendota.

President and CEO, Sam Setchell, oversees the day-to-day operations of the Chamber and policies of the board of directors and ambassador club. Responsibilities include public relations, fiscal oversight and the task of marketing Mendota. Setchell is assisted by Becky Biers, who has served as the Executive Assistant since October 2021. Together, they work to plan promotional events and carry out the directions of the Chamber board.

The Chamber's website, www.mendotachamber.com, is a member benefit for Chamber members and is an important tool for connecting consumers with members' businesses. The site includes a directory that lists all Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce members and provides links to members' websites. The website includes members' job listings and coupons, as well as an updated Calendar of Events listing members' events.

Every year, the Chamber's largest project is to coordinate the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival, which celebrates our community and the importance that agriculture and corn have played in Mendota's history. Always an impressive event, this year's Mendota Sweet Corn Festival will be no exception as it marks 76 years. The 2023 celebration is scheduled for Aug. 10-13. The Chamber's Sweet Corn Festival website, www.sweetcornfestival.com, will show the 2023 calendar of events by late spring. The Chamber also compiles and distributes a brochure highlighting festival event sponsors and promoting member restaurants and motels. 2017 was the first year in 30 years that the chamber brought a new carnival to town, which helped draw a record-breaking crowd of between 60,000-65,000 in attendance.

Some of the other benefits of Chamber membership are mailings, which keep members informed of upcoming events and programs; an e-newsletter broadcasting Chamber news, member events, and new members; advertising opportunities on the Chamber's double-sided LED sign located at the Mendota Civic Center; referrals of Chamber members; the Chamber ambassador's club, which welcomes new businesses and assists with grand openings and ribbon cutting; free participation in the Mendota Gift Certificate program; Chamber sponsored events and networking opportunities; free seminars and workshops on topics of interest and concern to members; community events and tourism; opportunity to post job listings and coupons on the Chamber website; a Prescription Discount Card, and the Mendota Community Calendar published monthly in The Mendota Reporter and free listing of Chamber members as monthly sponsors. All Chamber Members are also included in the Mendota Community Profile Book, which highlights different aspects of Mendota including City Government, School System, Industry, Health Care options, Tourism, etc. This publication is available in the Chamber Office or at www.mendotachamber.com.

The Chamber once again sponsored the Shop Local program this holiday season. The program ran from Nov. 21 through Dec. 21. For every \$10 spent in one of the over 60 participating businesses, customers received a sticker for their Shop Local card. Once cards were filled,



Santa and Mrs. Claus make their way down Illinois Avenue to Santa's House during "A Mendota Christmas" event in December, which is sponsored by the Chamber.

they were turned into the Chamber office. The grand prize winner was Hayden Schmidt of Mendota, who received over \$1,000 in gift certificates and merchandise donated by participating businesses. This holiday season, the Chamber had 410 Shop Local cards turned in, which total of \$102,500 spent in Mendota this holiday season.

The Mendota Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner/Awards Banquet, held at the Mendota Civic Center, recognizes the accomplishments of several area indi-

viduals and businesses with a number of special awards. The recipient of the H.D. Hume Outstanding Service Award for 2022 was Mike Schultz, the 2022 Tom Merwin Gold Star Employee Award went to Jennifer Sibley of Casey's General Store, and the 2022 Sweet Corn Festival Volunteer of the Year went to Ben Zendeli. The Beautification Award was presented to The Chalet.

Other events sponsored by the Chamber include the Valentine Baby Contest, The Chamber Games, Sweet Corn Festival Golf Classic,



The 2022 royalty ride in the Grand Parade on Sunday of the Chamber-sponsored Sweet Corn Festival.

Fly In Breakfast, Mendota's 4th of July Celebration, A Mendota Christmas, Operation Elf Action, and the Chamber Playday golf outing. In addition, the Chamber partners with The Mendota Reporter in co-sponsoring the Mendota Community Calendar, which appears monthly in The Reporter.

The Chamber also serves to support and assist Mendota retailers in their promotions such as the Mrs. Santa Cookie Sale, Sidewalk Sales and the "Woodhaven" and "Hi Neighbor" coupon books. The Chamber is also busy writing Chamber Gift Certificates throughout the year. Chamber Gift Certificates make wonderful gifts for the hard-to-buy-for

person because they can be used at more than 60 businesses.

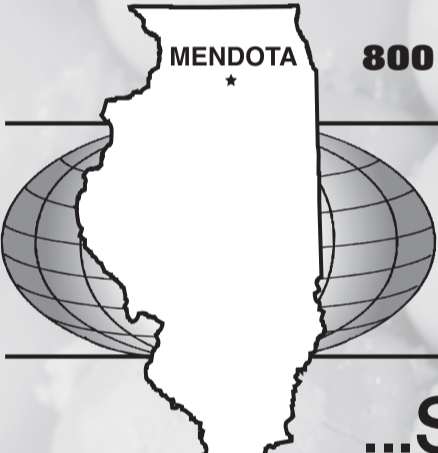
The Chamber Ambassadors are the Chamber of Commerce serving as hosts for the annual Chamber Playday golf outing and annual dinner. The Ambassadors conduct Operation Elf Action during the holidays, which involves roughly 200 children annually. The Chamber Ambassadors also serve as a welcoming committee for new businesses in town for grand openings, ribbon cuttings, and Chamber After Hour events.

The Chamber office is located in the Mendota Municipal Building at 800 Washington St. in downtown

Mendota. The building houses the city clerk's office and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber office has long been an information center for visitors and residents providing answers to the many questions that are asked each day. The Chamber supplies the community with information on Chamber members' businesses and gives out maps of the city, county and state.

Tourism is also a Chamber priority and the office provides a comprehensive list of activities and events. The Chamber continues to focus on the marketing of Mendota and the business interests of its members. They hope you will "Make Mendota a Destination!"



800 Washington Street • [815] 539-6507 • www.mendotachamber.com

Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce

...Serving Your Community And YOU!

2022-2023 CHAMBER MEMBERS:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4m Graphix Abigail's Women's Center Adkins Towing, LLC ADM Grain Co. Advanced Drainage Systems Aimee Holland Al Bonnell American Machine, Inc. Ancare Veterinary Clinic ARS Auto Repair Service Ashlee Kittilson Photography August Hill Winery Barkman Concrete Construction, Inc. Basil Construction Beck Oil BP & I-39 Plaza Becker Chiropractic Big UpRoar Black Brothers Co. Boelk Truck Lines Buckman Iron & Metal Business Employment Skills Team Captain Thomas J Heitmann Memorial Carriage House Electric Casey's General Store Central Bank of Illinois Chalet Sports Bar Chamlin & Associates, Inc. Chris Eller-The Retirement Specialist Cindy's on 34 City of Mendota Com Ed Community Health Partnership of Illigan Country Financial – Michael J. Organ, Agent Davis Family Health DeLong's Auto Body Designs & Signs by Anderson Diaz Grocery and Taco Dimond Bro. Insurance Edward Jones Ekana Nursery El Rey 102.9 FM WMKB El Rey Del Taco El Zarape Mexican/American Restaurant Euclid Beverage LTD Eureka Savings Bank Expressions Salon Financial Plus Credit Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Federal Savings Bank First Presbyterian Church First State Bank First State Bank Plaza North First State Insurance Floralcrest Frank Kobisek G & M Distributors Gahan Goy CPA's, Ltd Ganz Electric Graves-Hume Public Library Guilfoyle & Stevenson LLP Attorney at Law H & H Builders H.D. Hume Company HCC, Inc. Heritage Health Therapy & Senior Care Holy Cross School Homestead Realty Hornung Electric & Construction, LLC Illinois Valley Community College Illinois Valley Counseling Services Illinois Valley Hispanic Partnership Council Impact Networking, LLC J J & L Carpentry Janelaine Boutique John Elston John Christ Jones Home Improvement Judge Troy Holland Jurassic Bark Kaleel Law Office Ken Otterbach Excavating and Demolition KingSpan Insulation, LLC Knights of Columbus Krenz Dental Corp. Kurt Bruno State Farm Insurance LaSalle NewsTribune Lakeside Liquors & Tobacco LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Lee Stocking Lilja Tiling & Excavating Little Joe's Gaming Cafe M S Electric Mad Tappers, LLC Mahoney Environmental 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main Street Station Mauch Carpentry, Inc. Maxie's Salon Mc Donalds #15712 Mc Donalds #37038 McConville Realty & Auctioneering MCS Advertising Mendota Area Senior Services Mendota Area YMCA Mendota Business & Retirement Women Mendota Civic Center Mendota Community Theatre Mendota Companion Animal Centre, PC Mendota Elementary School District Mendota Farmers Market Mendota FFA Alumni Mendota Ford, Inc. Mendota Golf Club Mendota Lions Club Mendota Moose Lodge # 714 Mendota Mutual Insurance Mendota Reporter Mendota Rotary Club Mendota Township High School Merritt Funeral Home Meyers Furniture Midland States Bank Moore Tires Nicor Gas Nightengales Thrift Shop North Central Area Transit Northern Illinois Ambulance, Inc. Northern Illinois Seamless Roofing Northern Partners Cooperative MRG Media 1430 AM WCMY & 95.3 JACK FM OSF St. Paul Medical Center Painting Parties & Crafts with Lucy Parkway Family Restaurant Paulies Snack Shack Phalen Steel Construction Company Pizzas by Marchelloni Plano Molding Pohl's Office Supply Power Care Rehabilitation Prairie Land Millwright, Inc. Prairie State Tractor Prescott Brothers, Inc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose Nutrition Quality First Inspections, LLC Quality Inn & Suites Ridley Feed Ingredients Rochelle Community Hospital Rosati's Pizza Pub Rose Concrete Salinas Mexican Food Schimmers GM Sew Quilts Sports-N-Stuff Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Starved Rock Media Starved Rock Wood Products Stephenich Do It Best Hardware Stoncroft Village Studio 1500 Studstill Media Subway Sullivan's Ace Hardware Sullivan's Foods Super 8 Motel Surf Internet T2 Enterprises Tacos Guzman Tara VanDeWyngaerde O.D., P.C. Technology Made Easy Town & Country Realty Travel to You, Inc. Triple Service Plumbing, Heating & Cooling Uncle Joe's Gaming Cafe United Way of Illinois Valley Valley-Coin-Jewelry-Pawn Victory Baptist Church Walker Brothers Plumbing, Heating & Cooling Waltham Curling Club Wasmer Funeral Home, Inc. West Side Family Dentistry Western Sand & Gravel Co., LLC Windy City Amusements, Inc. Woodhaven Association Yeakel's Piano Service Ziggle's Family Restaurant
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The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce, established in 1945, is a not-for-profit organization of businesses, representing industry, retail service, professionals and agriculture in partnership with tourism and government to further promote economic growth and quality of life in Mendota and the surrounding area. The strength of the Chamber lies in the active involvement of its membership. The Chamber office makes referrals of its members, and promotes them through a variety of activities, making the public aware of the goods and services available here in Mendota from its membership. The Mendota Chamber is a voice for business and is devoted to strengthening the business community and maintaining the exceptional characteristics of life here in Mendota.

CHAMBER OFFICERS

Michelle Barkman - Past Chair
 Evan Wixom - Chair of the Board
 Marion Quintana - Vice Chair
 Jesse Arellano - Secretary
 Erica Henry - Treasurer

CHAMBER STAFF

Sam Setchell – President & CEO
Administrative Assistant
 Becky Biers



The city of Mendota made improvements to the Lake Mendota Park area in 2022, adding a dog park, above, and a pickle ball court, right.



City sees progress, heartbreak in 2022

It was a rather tumultuous 2022 for the city of Mendota, with its share of highs and lows. There were improvements made with the addition of new businesses and upgrades to the city's infrastructure, including the repaving of Route 251 throughout the town. But there was also heartbreak for the 170-year-old city. Two devastating fires to historic buildings in the downtown district have changed the landscape and left sorrow for everyone who loves the "World's Greatest Little City."

Below are some of the happenings in Mendota in 2022.

JANUARY

Police Chief Greg Kellen gave an extended report on business and happenings with the department. He said there are now 18 surveillance cameras in the downtown area, 20 at the police de-

partment and 12 at the fire department. He indicated the cameras are absolutely instrumental to public safety and are of exceptional quality. New uniforms have arrived for police department personnel and are now in use. Kellen said there have been very positive comments from the officers on the quality of the new uniforms.

FEBRUARY

A traffic study was conducted in the 1200 block of Jefferson Street and it was determined that four stop signs will be placed at the intersection of Jefferson Street and Wisconsin Avenue. Pedestrian cross lines will be painted when weather permits.

A Zoning Board of Appeals meeting was called to consider variance requests from Dollar General. The requests are for property located at the southwest corner of the intersection of 12th Street (U.S. 34) and

Lori Lane, and if approved, a 12,480-square foot Dollar General will be constructed on the site.

Three bids were received for the 2022 curb project. The council accepted the low bid of \$61,093 from Ladzinski Concrete Finishing Co. of Peru. The project will involve the sides of Springfield Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to Indiana Avenue, and the south side of 16th Street from Augustine Avenue to Lincoln Avenue.

MARCH

In anticipation of capital improvements needed at the city sewer plant, the rates will be increasing for city residents. Effective April 1 to show up on the May bill, the monthly rate will go from \$11 to \$14 and the per 100 cubic feet rate will rise from \$4.30 to \$5.80.

See City, Page A5



The friendly, helpful team at Financial Plus Credit Union includes, front row, left to right, Rose Bønnell and Celina Garza. Back row, Nancy Faber, Jennifer Truckenbro, Audrey Holocker, Laurie Eich, Alejandra Hernandez.

Financial Plus has been providing exceptional service since 1951

Financial Plus Credit Union has been providing exceptional service to members since 1951. Membership has expanded to 10 counties. With offices in Mendota, Ottawa, Peru, Morris and Diamond they are a member-owned, federally insured cooperative that offers financial strength and exceptional service to members. The Credit Union insures members' deposits up to \$500,000 through the NCUA (National Credit Union Association) and ESI, (Excess Share Insurance Corp).

Financial Plus members are part-owners who share in Credit Union profits and enjoy competitive or higher dividends on savings, reduced loan rates and minimal or no fees. Financial Plus offers services such as free checking, low-cost loans, savings certificates, instant

issue debit cards, a VISA Credit Card with a rewards program, convenient payroll deduction, direct deposit, online banking, mobile banking, tablet banking, online check deposits, smart watch banking, mobile payment solutions, youth savings clubs and more.

Financial Plus also offers a safe mortgage loan program with money to lend from traditional mortgage loans to the Ownership Advantage Mortgage Loan allowing you to finance up to 95 percent of the purchase price. The mortgage loans are kept in-house and you can save thousands of dollars over the life of the loan by paying weekly.

Since 1951, Financial Plus has served its members, it has catered to young members, offering a Wiley Wabbit Savings Club for children ages 9 and younger

and a Tweens n' Teens Club for ages 10 through 19. Through these clubs, children learn about savings, the fundamentals of finance and how to manage their money. Financial Plus offers these kids fun contests throughout the year, an annual pool party, financial literacy in the local schools, their first debit card, their first auto loan, and much more.

Isn't time you joined? A \$1 savings account entitles you to a lifetime membership. Membership is open to anyone living or working in Bureau, De Kalb, Grundy, Lee, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, Putnam, and Will counties. For more information, log on to www.financialplus.org, call 815-539-3444 or visit their Mendota facility at 1905 13th Ave. "We Belong to You... and That's the PLUS!"

FINANCIAL + plus
CREDIT UNION

Your Member Owned and Operated
Financial Institution

Membership Open to
THE COMMUNITY



Ottawa | Peru | Mendota | Morris | Diamond

financialplus.org

HCC, Inc. helps keep the ag industry going strong

Beginning its 140th year of business, HCC, Inc., continues to be a key member of the manufacturing landscape in the local Mendota community. As a leading supplier of high quality equipment to the Agricultural Industry, HCC relies on its team of employees to meet the demand of its large OEM customers.

Over the course of the last several years, investments have been made in robotics and automation to keep HCC a leading-edge manufacturer. In addition, an internal welding training program was started in January 2022. With the help of area high schools and local recruiting efforts, HCC was able to attract new employees and offer new skills. This effort will ensure HCC has the staffing and skills required to continue to meet its customers' expectations well into the future.

HCC, Inc. is proud to be a 100% Employee-Owned ESOP, offering its employees pride of ownership. The ESOP journey started in 1996 with the intention to share



the success and growth of the company with HCC employees. Over the past 27 years, HCC believes it has done just that by generating share price value and helping its employees grow their retirement plans and future.

HCC, Inc., roots run deep in the Mendota Community, and the company looks forward to continuing to contribute to the community.

HCC is a Leading Supplier of
High-Quality
Agriculture Equipment

Celebrating 140 Years Since 1883



1501 First Ave.

Mendota, IL

www.hccinc.com

815-539-9371 • 815-539-3135 (Fax)

City

Continued from Page A4

The zoning board of appeals met March 3 to consider variance requests from Dollar General for a new store to be built on U.S. 34 at Lori Lane on the east side of Mendota. The following requests were approved: decrease the number of parking spaces from 63 to 50; decrease the number of loading spaces from two to one; allow a 10-foot setback along the west side of the property.

The Mendota Police Department welcomed two new officers to its team. Brian Ehlert and Austin O'Sadnick took the oath of office from Dave McNally, chairman of the Police & Fire Commission.

Decorative banner flags adorn the light posts on Illinois Avenue in downtown Mendota. The banner flags were purchased by the Mendota Garden Club, and the city bought the hardware to mount the flags.

APRIL

Three bids were submitted for the sale of city property located at 1107 Third Ave. The high bid of \$5,000 was given by Dennis Gehant of Amboy and the city accepted. The other two bids were for \$4,000 and \$3,000.

The city council approved the FY23 budget. In the General Fund, revenue is projected at \$7,619,716 and expenses are estimated at \$6,968,839 for a positive balance of \$650,877. Two bids were received for the motor fuel tax summer street maintenance program. The low bid was awarded to AC Pavement Striping of Elgin in the amount of \$82,051.

A traffic study will be redoing the streets form of this summer. A cape seal oil and chip method will be laid down and then a seal coat put over the top of it. One block of this process is about one-third of the cost of applying hot asphalt.

MAY

Some Mendota residents have noticed small colored utility flags stuck in their yards. The flags are marking off where utility lines are located, as the installation of fiber optic broadband internet lines will begin soon. Surf Broadband Solutions will be installing the lines to offer its services to the community. The installation process could take six to nine months. A resolution for an Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) permit was approved for replacement of the bridge culvert on U.S. 34 at Fourth Avenue.

JUNE

The city council approved the 13th Avenue road construction project should be completed by June 17, which is ahead of the original schedule.

Police Chief Greg Kellen said that approximately 20 percent of the calls answered by the Mendota Police Department are associated with mental health issues. He added that MPD officers are trained in crisis intervention for handling mental health cases.

JULY

The city council approved the request for MD Motors, LLC, for a salvage yard to be located at 4380 E. Fourth Road. The owner is Michael Munteanu.

An ordinance amending the text of Articles IV, VII and XII of the zoning chapter of the Mendota Municipal Code to allow solar farms as a permitted use in Conservation-Recreation Districts was approved by the city council.

AUGUST

The city approved the Mendota Fire Fighters Local 4200 successor contract, the FOP Mendota Patrol Officers contract, the FOP Mendota Sergeant/Lieutenants contract and the International Union of



Operating Engineers Local 150 contract. The council also approved an inducement resolution for Prescott Brothers. The car dealership is planning an approximately 15,000-square foot, \$2.4 million building project contingent upon the creation of a TIF District.

Jeremiah Ellison took the oath of office as a new part-time officer with the Mendota Police Department. Ellison, 32, is from Yorkville and will work with Yorkville and the area's drug enforcement task force. A zoning variance request from Beck's BP on 13th Avenue was approved, allowing a setback from the south side of the lot from 40 feet to 20 feet, for an addition to the building.

A fire occurred at the historic buildings in the 800 block of Main Street, resulting in the eventual demolition of the structures.

SEPTEMBER

A dog park was approved for the Lake Mendota area, west of the west shelter. The fenced area will be 100x200 feet and will be sectioned off for large dogs and small dogs. There will also be an unleashing area and agility obstacles for the dogs to play.

A traffic study was done on Ninth Street from First Avenue to Fourth Avenue. Upon completion, it was recommended that yield signs be installed at the intersection of Ninth Street and Second Avenue.

OCTOBER

Jennifer Coppes was sworn in as a full-time firefighter/paramedic. Coppes, 35, of Earlville, has been a member of the Earlville Fire Department for 15 years. She is also a member of the MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) Division 25 Technical Rescue Team. Her hiring brings the fire department up to its full staffing level.

NOVEMBER

The city council approved three ordinances that forms the 2022 Mendota TIF - an ordinance for the redevelopment plan for 2022 TIF; an ordinance designating the redevelopment area of the 2022 TIF; and an ordinance adopting the 2022 Tax Increment Financing District. In a related ordinance, the council adopted an intergovernmental agreement with Mendota High School. The Mendota 2022 TIF District was formed to stimulate commercial, industrial/ manufacturing and residential development within the city.

Chief Greg Kellen congratulated Zachary Urbanski upon his promotion to the rank of sergeant with the Mendota Police Department.

DECEMBER

The city council authorized the sale of municipally owned real property at 1017 Main St. in the amount of \$105,000 and authorized the purchase of real property at 807 Illinois Ave. in an amount up to \$45,000.

The 2022 tax levy, which is in the amount of \$2,167,136, was approved. That is compared to the 2021 levy amount of \$2,064,729. The slight increase will have just a plus 0.2% impact on residents' tax bill.

The second fire in four months has destroyed historic buildings in the downtown district and left Mendota stunned. A devastating blaze raced through the row of buildings connected on the west side of the 700 block of Illinois Avenue on Thursday, Dec. 29, only leaving the old Mendota Reporter building and the city of Mendota building unfazed.

Capital projects and building enhancements made to Mendota High School over 20 years

Mendota High School moved to its new location at 2300 W. Main St. in the winter of 2003. The new 144,000 square foot school is situated on an original 54 acres of land. The core facilities of the high school can house up to 750 students. The completion date for the new building was January of 2003. The media center is the central point of the building, and the administrative offices, student services offices, the academic wings, and the cafeteria branch out from the media center. The academic wing originally consisted of general, science, and special education classrooms, high-tech computer-media labs and faculty offices. The school's athletic wing included an auxiliary gym, a fitness/weight room, and a competition gym that can seat 2,000 spectators. The performing arts department consisted of band and chorus rooms with storage and practice areas, and a 550-seat auditorium. The raised positioning of the building originally allowed a view of Lake Kakusha to the south. The original parking lot was designed for 432 vehicles. Twenty years have passed quickly, and the Board of Education has been diligent in providing necessary enhancements and upgrades to the facility.

The first major enhancements to the complex were to bring out all athletic stadiums and fields to the new location. Soccer fields were immediately available in the back of the new grounds. Tennis courts were next built at the new facility, and there are eight regulation courts available for the MHS tennis teams. In 2011, a new multi-use turf sports field, bleachers, press box with sound system, and out-buildings for concessions, toilets, team rooms, and storage was completed. The 8-lane track allows for large competitions. The athletic stadium is home to the soccer, football, and track programs. Upon completion of the new stadium, the Mendota High School Board of Education was able to gift the Doenier Field Stadium to Doenier Elementary District, #289. Upkeep, painting, and repair of the tennis courts has been in excess of \$50,000 over the years. The MHS Maintenance Department was a major contributor to the original construction of the baseball and softball fields at the new facility.

In 2017, an energy audit of lights and fixtures were completed. Following the recommendations of the energy audit, the board replaced lights, fixtures, and new parking lot fixtures. The same year, there was significant work done on the installation of electricity to the baseball and softball fields, dugouts, and tennis courts. The Mendota High School Athletic Booster Club donated over \$13,000 to make this project possible. After fiscal year 2020, there have been significant capital improvements. Gym lights were replaced for \$32,916. It was also time for a new chiller and HVAC control panel system and an upgrade to the parking lot lights and outside building lights for a cost of \$711,984. The back parking lot surface, front parking lot surface, a safer enclosed building connection was designed and constructed between the vocational and main building, metal roof shingles on the main building, new lights in the vocational building, and a complete renovation to modernize four science labs and classrooms were completed for \$3,494,821. Another necessary capital improvement was the replacement of one 300-gallon water heater with four tankless heaters and replacement of five control valves for a cost of \$53,023.



Mendota High School's new athletic stadium begins to "go green" on Friday, July 15, 2011, as workers from Extend Across the Field process laying artificial turf. The turf is laid in strips that extend across the field. Each strip is laid face down on top of the preceding one, the two are sewn together by machine on the underside and then unfolded. The 2023 Board of Education estimates that within the next five years, the track around the stadium will need resurfacing, and another estimate is for the turf replacement, and that should occur within the next seven to nine years.

Another hidden maintenance capital project was the cleaning, repairing and fire-proofing of auditorium curtains for \$15,640. Years pass by quickly, and the competition or main gym floor needed to be sanded and painted for \$32,515. There were also needed enhancements and improvements to the baseball and softball fields. There was tiling, field work, and siding replaced on the dugouts and press box for \$438,308. Since fiscal year 2020, the total capital project costs have been approximately \$4.8 million.

There are future capital projects that the board of education has planned for the continued maintenance and enhancement of Mendota High School. The transportation department has a site located at the former high

school vocational building. The bus garage roof repairs are estimated at \$50,000 this year. Within the next two to four years, the flat roof portion of the high school will be repaired for approximately \$2.5 million. The board estimates that within the next five years, the track will need resurfacing. Another estimate is for the turf replacement, and that should occur within the next seven to nine years. Finally, during the 2023-2024 school year, the high school will be due for a 10-Year Health Life Safety Audit from the Regional Office of Education. Any identified upgrades or repairs identified during the audit will be addressed.

On behalf of the Mendota High School board of education, administration, and

staff, we would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to the entire Mendota Township community for your past, current, and future support. Our goal is always to be responsible financial stewards of taxpayer money and provide the best learning community to our students. It is evident that the Board of Education has been dedicated to keeping the tax rate for Mendota High School low. It is the second lowest in LaSalle County (and only Seneca High School with a nuclear plant is lower). We know to continue to prepare our graduates to be successful, productive, and responsible members of an evolving society that our high school also needs to grow and evolve. Thank you for your support of MHS. #GoTrojans!



Excellence in Education
MISSION STATEMENT:

The learning environment of Mendota Township High School offers educational opportunities for the individual to develop a personally satisfying life, to function as an intelligent and responsible member of our society, and to achieve what is necessary to become a productive citizen.



MENDOTA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

"Home of the Trojans"

2300 W. Main St. • Mendota • (815) 539-7446



COMMUNITY MATTERS

ACCURATE TITLE & LICENSE

Setchell Agency, Ltd.
618 6th St. • Mendota
815-539-9311

ASSISTED & INDEPENDENT LIVING

Stonecroft Village
1700 Burlington St.
815-538-5300
stonecroftvillage.com

AUCTIONEERS

McConville Realty & Auctioneering
612 Main St.
815-539-5673

AUTO BODY REPAIR

The Fender Menders
325 N. 25th Rd., Route 251 S., Peru
815-224-1506

Furar's Body Shop

306 Plaza Dr.
815-539-6075

Specialty Body & Paint

1503 W. Washington St.
815-539-7801
Se Habla Español

ASSISTED LIVING

Home Instead (In Home Non-Medical Care)
815-223-7970
www.homeinstead.com/53b

ATTORNEY

The Cantlin Law Firm
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AUTOMOBILE DEALERS

Mendota Ford
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BOOKKEEPING/TAX SERVICE

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4119 N. State Hwy. 251 • Mendota
Ph. 815-538-6290 • Fax 815-538-7032
bakerscomputerservices@frontier.com

CARPENTRY

Jones Home Improvement
Anthony J. Jones
815-539-6175

CARPET & FLOORING

Meyers Furniture & Carpet
1901 S. 13th Ave.
815-539-6263

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce
800 Washington St.
815-539-6507

CONTRACTORS - GENERAL

Mauch Carpentry
705 Illinois Ave.
815-539-7867
License #104005528

DENTISTS

Krenz Dental, Ltd.
Robert Krenz, D.D.S. • Jon Krenz, D.M.D.
704 Indiana Ave. • 815-538-5316

ELECTRICAL

Triple Service
Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Electric
801 Monroe St.
815-539-3828
IL Lic. #055-041123

ELECTRICAL/CONTRACTING

Carriage House Electric
105 12th St.
815-538-5598

Hilliker Electric, LLC

1417 Franklin Grove
815-456-7036
Emergency Number 815-441-8207

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Eureka Savings Bank
1300 13th Ave.
815-539-5656
Member FDIC

Financial Plus Credit Union

1905 13th Ave.
815-539-3444
Member NCUA-ESI

First Federal Savings Bank

1205 Washington St.
815-539-6757
Member FDIC

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

First State Bank
706 Washington St. • Main
1403 13th Ave. • Plaza
815-538-2265
firststatebank.biz
Member FDIC

FIREPLACES

Maze Lumber
Water Street • Peru
815-223-1742

FLORISTS

Floralcrest Florist & Greenhouse
1207 22nd St.
815-539-9306

FUNERAL HOMES

Wasmer Funeral Home
2112 W. Main St.
815-539-8500

FURNITURE

Meyers Furniture & Carpet
1901 S. 13th Ave.
815-539-6263

GROCERY STORES

Sullivan's Foods
1102 Meriden St.
815-539-9341

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YMCA
Route 251 South • Mendota
815-539-9343

HARDWARE STORES

Stephenitch Do It Best Hardware
Rt. 251 North
815-539-9394

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Davis Family Health, LLC
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815-538-1800

HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS

Campbell Plumbing & Heating
Heating • Cooling • Plumbing
1211 Chicago St.
815-539-5083
In Business 38 Years • IL Lic. #058-097742

Malley Plumbing & Heating

123 South Ottawa Street, Earlville
815-246-6011
IL License #055-009898

Triple Service

Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Electric
801 Monroe St.
815-539-3828
IL Lic. #055-041123

Walter Bros.

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling
909 Washington St.
815-538-6516
IL Lic. #058-102682

INSURANCE

First State Insurance
715 Washington St. • 815-539-5651

Kurt Bruno State Farm

1103 Main St. • 815-539-3878

Setchell Agency, Ltd.

618 Sixth St. • 815-539-9311

KITCHEN & BATH

Maze Lumber
Water Street • Peru
815-223-1742

Someone's In the Kitchen

1619 N. Main St. • Princeton
815-879-0604
www.somekitchen.com

LIBRARY

Graves-Hume Public Library
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815-538-5142
www.graveshume.org

MATTRESSES

Meyers Furniture & Carpet
1901 S. 13th Ave.
815-539-6263

OFFICE SUPPLY

Pohl's Office Supply & Equipment
809 Washington St.
815-538-5741

OPTOMETRIST

Dr. Tara Van de Wyngaerde
700 14th Ave.
815-539-6291

PET GROOMING

Dirty Dawgs
918 Main St., Ste 2
815-538-2550

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Campbell Plumbing & Heating
Heating • Cooling • Plumbing
1211 Chicago St.
815-539-5083
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815-539-3828
IL Lic. #055-041123

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815-538-6516
IL Lic. #058-102682

POST FRAME BUILDERS

N.L. Morton Buildings, Ltd.
203 N. 4099th Road
815-539-9325
New construction & repair

REALTORS

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815-535-6295 • Lorierbes@gmail.com

Homestead Realty

1316 Lakewood Plaza, #5
815-539-3811

McConville Realty & Auctioneering

612 Main St.
815-539-5673

Town & Country Realty

607 Sixth St.
(815) 539-6635

RESTAURANTS

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815-539-9000

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815-539-7011
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815-539-6354

TAX PREPARATION

H&R Block

1313 Meriden St.
815-539-7610
hrblock.com

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618 Sixth St.
815-539-9311

THRIFT STORES

Nightengales Thrift Shop

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TRANSPORTATION

Mendota Area Senior Services

1901 Tom Merwin Drive
815-539-7700
mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com

TOWING

Gibson Towing

230 E. Lincoln Ave., Leland
815-651-9436

City of Mendota

800 Washington Street
815-539-7459
www.mendota.il.us

FIRST STATE BANK

706 Washington St. and
1304 13th Ave., Mendota
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FIRST STATE INSURANCE

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1205 Sixth Ave.
815-539-3844
www.ancarevet.com

Mendota Companion Animal Centre
Cathy J. Wolf, DVM
Rt. 251 N.
815-539-6601
www.mendotavet.com

WINDOWS & DECKING

Maze Lumber
Water Street • Peru
815-223-1742



Sullivan's Foods-Mendota



Bakery Department
Sally Hedgspeth,
manager

Deli Department
Darla Kleckner,
manager



Meat Department
Jeff Chandler,
manager

Produce Department
Juan Renteria,
manager



Eureka Savings Bank has five locations to serve its customers, including at 1300 13th Ave. in Mendota.

Eureka Savings Bank offers safest, most current access to accounts

Eureka Savings Bank has been proudly serving its customers and supporting its communities since 1885 and looks forward to continuing this tradition. The banking industry is continuously changing and Eureka Savings Bank is working to provide all of you with the safest, most current access to your accounts and its services.

Eureka Savings Bank is now offering commercial loans and deposit accounts and has had great success with its mobile banking app. Online mortgage applications and mobile deposit capture are the next services Eureka is excited to provide to you.

While Eureka Savings Bank has made it more convenient for you to access your accounts and do business when it is convenient, you may also stop in any of its locations – LaSalle, Mendota, Oglesby, Peru, and Wenona – where its friendly, dedicated staff is ready to serve you. Thank you for your loyalty and

patronage and Eureka will continue working to earn it in the future.

2023 Mortgage Promotion

Eureka Savings Bank is pleased to announce that it is partnering with Habitat for Humanity – LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam Counties, Inc., as part of a commitment to its community. Habitat for Humanity – LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam Counties, Inc., provides decent, affordable housing for low-income families by bringing together the necessary volunteers, experienced help, suppliers, city and government agencies, and families to form partnerships. Eureka Savings Bank will donate \$25 to Habitat for Humanity – LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam Counties, Inc., for every mortgage loan that is closed in 2023. Customers and members will also be able to make donations to Habitat for Humanity – LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam Counties, Inc., at any Eureka Savings

Bank branch. Eureka is proud to support Habitat for Humanity – LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam Counties, Inc., with another successful fundraising year.

e-Banking Services

Eureka Savings Bank offers 24/7 services for all of your needs through its e-Banking options. Now you can send and receive money with Zelle®.

The services Eureka offers are mobile check deposit, personal finance, external transfers, stop payments, tokenization, bill pay, e-Alerts, internal transfers, text banking, digital receipts, Secu-LOCK equip, calculators, e-Statements, online check ordering and mobile pay apps.

Still on the horizon is online account opening, where you can open a deposit account in the comfort of your own home 24/7.

For more information about what Eureka Savings Bank has to offer, log on to eurekasavings.com or visit one of its five locations.

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Made in Walnut!

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www.eurekasavings.com

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Emily McConville

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Kyle Kim

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Jim Fitzpatrick

John Holland

Jay Miller

Mark Peasley

Leo Hochstatter

Building Inspector

Al Engel

Mendota City Officials

City Clerk’s Office

Wendy Letterly
Rita Borelli

Public Works Director

Tim Kimrey

Water Dept.

Kevin McPheeters
Daniel Falcon
Jason Phalen
Sean Fox

Sewer Dept.

Nathan Kim
Vic Gonda
Jason McStoots

Street Dept.

Nick Stremlau
Mark Grinka
Ethan Guede
Robert Martinez
Jeffrey Schillinger

Fire Dept.

Dennis Rutishauser
Brian Fisher
Lonny Eisenberg
Brady Rutishauser
Justin Setchell
Jennifer Coppes

Police Dept.

Greg Kellen
Tyler Kent
Brad Martin
Amy Oscepinski
Tammy Kackert
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Joshua Sarver
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