



City clerk Emily McConville, left, gives a report on the Illinois Avenue fire and the status of the buildings at the Jan. 16 city council meeting. (Reporter photo)

City gives report on status of Illinois Ave. buildings after fire

Investigation still ongoing into cause of the blaze

By KIP CHEEK
Staff writer

MENDOTA – A small group mainly comprised of members of the Imagine Mendota organization were in attendance at the Mendota City Council meeting on Jan. 16 to hear the latest information on the status of the buildings on Illinois Avenue that were severely damaged during the Dec. 29 fire.

During a Public Property Committee meeting after the regular council meeting, city clerk Emily McConville gave an update on the aftermath of the fire. She stated that the city buildings to the south end of the 700 block of Illinois Avenue were not damaged. The brick building that once housed The Mendota Reporter had some smoke damage and there is water in the basement, but the building should be salvageable. She also said the old Meyers Furniture building, which was opened up in order to halt the progression of the fire, may also be saved and a façade put back on.

McConville said the buildings after the old furniture store all the way to Delao’s Restaurant will have to be demolished. One of the buildings that is targeted for demolition was not insured, however, McConville stated

that the owner indicated he has the funding to pay for demolition. As for Delao’s, an engineer will look at the building to see if it can be saved. The restaurant sustained smoke and water damage.

McConville said an investigation into the point of origin of the fire is still ongoing. After the investigation is completed, McConville said a plan will be put in place and demolition can begin.

“There are so many pieces of the puzzle that have to be put together,” said Mayor David Boelk. “It comes down to the property owner about how they want to work with us. There are a lot of people involved.”

Prior to the regular meeting, a public hearing was held to discuss and hear testimony in regard to the authorization of a pre-annexation agreement with Kurt and Mary Bruno, 40 N. 42nd Road, Mendota. There was no public comment.

During the regular meeting, the council approved an ordinance authorizing a pre-annexation agreement with Kurt and Mary Bruno at 40 N. 42nd Road.

The next regular meeting of the Mendota City Council will be held on Monday, Feb. 6 at 5:30 p.m.

DAR, SAR recipients named at MHS

Escatel, Kunz earn awards from Good Citizens program

MENDOTA – Mendota High School has announced the winners of the 2022-23 DAR and SAR Good Citizens program, sponsored by the Illini Chapter of NSDAR. Isabelle Escatel was chosen to receive the DAR award and Abigail Kunz was the recipient of the SAR award.

These awards are open to all seniors. The recipients are nominated by fellow senior classmates and the faculty at MHS. Criteria for the DAR and SAR awards include dependability, cooperation, leadership and patriotism.

Escatel is the daughter of Isidro and Carrie Escatel. While in high school, her extra-curricular activities and achievements have included volleyball, tennis, bowling, Spanish Club, student council, class officer, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Yearbook Club, Prom committee, Homecoming committee, math team, Scholastic Bowl, principal’s office worker, Academic Challenge, Interact Club (Rotary), student handbook committee, beautification committee and Girls State.

She has also been involved as an active member of Mendota Area Senior Services, science lab tech, election judge, Red Cross blood drive volunteer and other services through Interact Club and MASS.

After high school, Escatel plans to attend IVCC for two years with a double major in business management and accounting, and then she plans to transfer to a four-year college. Afterwards, she would like to open her own small business.

In her free time, Escatel enjoys being with friends



Isabelle Escatel, left, is this year’s DAR award winner and Abigail Kunz is this year’s SAR award winner at Mendota High School. (Photo contributed)

and family, listening to music, attending concerts, expressing her creativity through art, fashion, painting and ceramics. She also loves spending time outdoors.

Kunz is the daughter of Matt and Stephanie Kunz. Among her extra-curricular activities and achievements in high school are cheerleading, track, marching band, concert band, Madrigal dinner, jazz band, musicals, choir, Drama Club, Scholastic Bowl, math team, Academic Challenge, Interact Club (Rotary), ESSA curriculum committee, lab tech worker, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Soci-

ety and Illinois State Scholar.

She has also been involved in tutoring, church volunteer, working at her dad’s company and working at Woodhaven.

After high school, Kunz plans to attend IVCC or Augustana College, but is undecided on her career path. She has interest in the medical and engineering fields, and she trusts that God will direct her in the ways He wants her to go.

In her spare time, Kunz enjoys doing Bible studies with friends, going to Starbucks, snowmobiling, organizing, scrapbooking and knitting.



June Prentice of Mendota usually gives quilts to her family and friends, or enters them into a fair. But this quilt is either on her bed, couch, or waiting in a tote for the Christmas quilt to retire from the holiday season. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

‘I still don’t want to quit’

J. Prentice has been quilting since 1976, and doesn’t plan to stop

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

MENDOTA – June Prentice has lived in Mendota, Compton, Paw Paw, and other local communities during her entire 81 years.

She attended the original Blackstone School and Mendota High School buildings and watched the building of the ones that are used today.

Through this time, through the years, Prentice has seen a lot of changes. But for her, she had one normal, one constant she always relied on: quilting.

“My dad’s mother, Grandma Wilhelmina “Mini” Zimmerman, I don’t know how she learned how to quilt, but she was a very good quilter and she taught her daughters,” said Prentice, who graduated from MHS in 1959. “My mother (Rose Zimmerman) learned from her. In the 1970s, there used to be home quilt parties, like a Tupperware party, and you bought blocks of cloth and you painted them. I made my first quilt in 1976. My blocks were about 1776 because it was for the United States Bicentennial.

“I didn’t learn how to quilt from my grandmother because she died when I was in the eighth grade. I got started through my mother. Another lady (Sandy Barsky) and I started a quilt guild. I thought I knew a lot about quilting, ha, boy did I learn a lot more once I joined the guild and got together with a bunch of ladies who could quilt.”

The Nine Patch Quilt Guild, started in 1988 by Prentice and Barsky, is still going strong today.

What started as a group of four women at the first meeting, now has 28 quilters who show up at the Dickinson House in Oglesby the second Tuesday of every month.

The guild gave Prentice a place to learn different techniques and now she is able to share her experiences and skills with others.

“I used to quilt a queen quilt in 4-5 weeks. That’s just hand quilting it, that’s not piecing it together or anything,” said Prentice, who used to buy every quilt book that was published to find new designs and new types of quilts. “I’m

not that speedy anymore and I have other things I want to do.

“I give most of my quilts away, but I said, ‘My bedroom is in blue, I love this one, and I’m keeping this one.’ Now, it’s usually on my bed. At Christmas time, I switch the quilt on my bed to a Christmas quilt. While I’m finishing a quilt, I’m already thinking of ideas for the next quilt. My mother (Rose Zimmerman) used to ask, ‘Well, which one are you going to put up next?’ I would always answer, ‘I got about four or five I could come up with.’”

Since 1976, Prentice estimates she has made more than 500 quilts.

The quilter has photo books with a photo and a description of her first 330 quilts she has made for people or submitted to Mendota’s Tri-County Fair or to the Sandwich Fair.

However, once her camera broke and she purchased a replacement, the quilt documentation stopped.

See Quilt, Page A5



Index

Local News	Pages A2,A3,A5
Obituaries	Page A4
Opinion	Page A6
Entertainment	Page A7
Tax Prep Guide	Pages A8,A9
The Back Page	Page A10
Sports	Pages B1,B2
Best of MHS.....	Pages B4,B5
Church Page	Page B7
Classifieds/Legals	Page B8



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LOCAL AND AREA

Hagenbuch sisters qualify for curling Junior National Championship

TRIUMPH – Two local sisters, Bella and Mae Hagenbuch, and their teammates battled in Fargo, N.D., recently for a bid to USA Curling's U21 Junior National Championship at Broomstones Curling Club near Boston, Mass., in April 2023. The Hagenbuch sisters (Waltham Curling Club, Triumph) paired up with their teammates, Rilee Kraft (Capital Curling Club, Bismarck, N.D.) and Lauren Hein (Pardeeville Curling Club, Pardeeville, Wis.) to qualify for the national event. Additionally, the team won the bronze medal for the qualifier with an overall record of 4-1. The girls are coached by Jed Brundidge (St. Paul, Minn.).

USA Curling opened qualifying events to eight women's and eight men's teams in the U21 Junior National Championship bracket. The Hagenbuch team is currently ranked fourth in the US for women's U21 teams. The winning teams at the 2023 USA Curling Junior National Championships advance to represent the United States at the 2024 World Junior Curling Championships.

The Hagenbuch team also qualified as the Midwest



The Hagenbuch sisters paired up with two other girls to qualify for a national curling event to be held in April. Left to right, are Bella Hagenbuch, Rilee Kraft, Mae Hagenbuch and Lauren Hein. (Photo contributed)

Women's representative for USA Curling's U18 Nationals, which were held Jan. 12-15 at Rock Creek Curling Club in LaFayette, Colo.

The Hagenbuch girls attribute their success to having nearby accessibility to curling. Bella stated, "While we have to travel for competitions, having practice ice only a short 10-minute drive away offers me many opportunities to improve my skills."

Mae Hagenbuch also sees the importance of history and heritage. "I'm a fourth-generation curler from Waltham

Curling Club. It's really neat to be able to curl in the same place my great grandfather did so many years ago."

Waltham Curling Club is the oldest curling club in Illinois and is situated in Triumph, just a short drive from Ottawa, LaSalle-Peru, and Mendota. Waltham Curling Club offers a variety of levels of curling from leagues and open houses to bonspiels (curling tournaments) and private events. Waltham Curling Club information can be found online at www.walthamcurling.org or on Facebook at Waltham Curling Club.

"Bagged Lunches Aren't Just for Kids Anymore!"

LaSALLE – The LaSalle Public Library will virtually host Professional Educator and Master Gardener Natalie Martin when she presents "Bagged Lunches Aren't Just for Kids Anymore!" on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 6 p.m.

Packing lunch doesn't have to be complicated, and

it doesn't have to be boring. In this program, Martin will suggest some easy-to-make and tasty lunch ideas and show how to prep them. Ideas will be demonstrated for those with access to a microwave and those without access. Save money, eat better, and enjoy lunch with

this program.

This program is free, open to the public, and will be presented virtually via Zoom. Registration required. Register - <https://bit.ly/3XdLpTe>. For more information, contact Rachael Blomquist, Digital Content Librarian, at 815-223-2341.



Maxie's Salon

Maxie's Salon recently opened for business and was welcomed by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce with a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Jan. 13. Seated, left to right, are Maxie's Salon employees Abby Motter, Caitlyn Aguilar and Paityn Barkman, and incoming Chamber president/CEO Sam Setchell. Joining in the event are Chamber officials, left to right, Lee Stocking, Steve Donnell, Luke O'Brien, Matt Meyer, Dessa Collings, Evan Wixom, Brenda Stallings, Kelly Becker, Michelle Barkman, outgoing president/CEO Shelby Weide and Christin Atherton. Maxie's Salon is located at 2104 Main St., Suite E, Mendota. Hairstylists are Barkman, who can be reached at 815-878-9056, and Aguilar, who can be reached at 815-488-5877. Motter specializes in facials and waxing, and can be contacted at 815-830-0709. (Reporter photo)

Transportation committee meeting planned in Mendota

MENDOTA – The next Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Regional Transportation Committee Meeting for Region 3 (Bureau, DeKalb, Grundy, Kendall, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle, and Putnam counties) will be held on Friday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m. at the Mendota Moose Lodge, 211 E. 12th St., Mendota.

Human service organizations with an interest in public transportation are strongly encouraged to attend as well as anyone that is interested in public transit. If you would like further information, please contact via email: hstp@ncicg.org or call us at (815) 433-5830.

There will be reserved

time slots available for public comment for anyone not able to attend the meeting in person via Zoom between 10:15-10:30 a.m. If you would like to participate in public comment during that time frame, call (815) 433-5830 to reserve your time slot.

HSTP identifies transportation needs and develops solutions to improve transportation services for the general public. An emphasis is placed on seniors, people with disabilities, individuals with lower incomes, and veterans. For more information about NCICG, HSTP, or if special accommodations are needed, contact Tim Hammers at (815) 433-5830.



Mural Painting

WestClox Studios out of LaSalle is painting the mural on the side of Triple Service Inc. in Mendota. Emily Maze, above, was joined by artist Madeline Anke and WestClox Studios owner Ray Paseka. (Reporter photo/BrandonLaChance)

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LOCAL AND AREA

Enter your child in the Valentine Baby Contest

MENDOTA – Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting entries for the 2023 Valentine Baby Contest.

Baby girls and boys between the ages of newborn to 36 months will be eligible. Submit a 5x7 photo of your baby and include the baby's full name, sex, age, parents' names, address and phone number. Photos will be available for pickup after the contest.

Deadline for all entries is Thursday, Jan. 19. Send photos to Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce, 800 Washington St. P.O. Box 620, Mendota or email to bbiers@mendotachamber.com. Voting will take place Jan. 24 through Feb. 14 at noon.

Categories are: 0-18 month girls at Eure-

ka Savings Bank; 0-18 month boys at First State Bank; and 19-36 month boys and girls at Financial Plus Credit Union. There will also be online voting. Voting is as follows: for example, one penny equals one vote, one quarter equals 25 votes, and a dollar equals 100 votes. The boys and girls in each category with the most votes will be named the winners.

First- and second-place prize winners will be announced on the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page on the afternoon of Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. First and second place in each category will win an assortment of fun prizes. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce.

Kathleen Geraghty shares the making of her book with LaSalle Public Library virtually on Zoom

LaSALLE – The LaSalle Public Library will virtually host author and former photojournalist, Kathleen Geraghty, when she shares how her book, "Thanks to Her: Finding Power and Inspiration in Your Family Photos," came to be. The program is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24.

In this unique program, Geraghty will tell the story that began with a humble garage sale and morphed into a multifaceted research project. More than a recap

of American history, from 1900 to 1950s, "Thanks to Her," is a metaphorical snapshot of women's lives during those decades.

Geraghty was raised in Chicago. She studied photojournalism at Northern Illinois University and at the University of Missouri – Columbia. After completing a four-month documentary photo project in a maximum-security women's prison, she received the O.O. McIntyre Writing Fellowship. Geraghty has worked

as a photojournalist for newspapers in New Jersey, Missouri, Michigan, North Dakota and Illinois, and has spent the last four years researching women's history and vintage photography.

This program is free, open to the public, and will be presented virtually via Zoom. Registration required. Register – <https://bit.ly/319f4Z5>. For more information, please call Rachael Blomquist, Digital Content Librarian, at 815-223-2341.

Stage 212 is holding auditions for Neil Simon's romantic comedy "Barefoot in the Park" Jan. 27-28

LaSALLE – Director Larry Kelsey has announced auditions for Stage 212's Spring 2023 production, "Barefoot in the Park," Neil Simon's perennially engaging hit romantic comedy, will be held Friday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. at the theater, 700 First St., La Salle.

Paul and Corie Bratter are newlyweds in every sense of the word. He's a reserved, straight-laced lawyer and she's a spontaneous free spirit who wishes he would just lighten up. Their new apartment is too expensive with little room, no heat, and a broken skylight – and it's six flights up.

When they get a surprise visit from Corie's conservative mother, Corie decides to play matchmaker during dinner with their cultured, eccentric neighbor-in-the-attic, Velasco, and everything that can go wrong does.

Kelsey will be casting one man and one woman able to play mid 20s – 30, one woman able to play

late 40s – early 50s, one man able to play mid – late 50s, one man able to play mid 30s – mid 50s and one male non-speaking role for a man 50 or older. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script.

No preparation is needed, and familiarity with the script is not required, but perusal scripts are

available by visiting the box office during regular hours, Monday 4-6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon. All are encouraged to audition, regardless of prior theatrical experience. For more information, visit www.stage212.org.

"Barefoot in the Park" will be presented April 21-30.

Make Valentine's Day cards at Graves-Hume Public Library

MENDOTA – Do you want to express to someone how much you love them? Come join in the fun at Graves-Hume Public Library to make some hand-crafted Valentine's Day cards.

Graves-Hume Public Library is pleased to announce that the University of Illinois Extension 4-H will once again be at the library doing another fun activity. Come craft at the library.

Registration is required. This program is open to youths 8-18 years old. Call the library at 815-538-5142 to register.

OSF HealthCare is hosting a blood drive Jan. 20

MENDOTA – OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center will host a community blood drive with ImpactLife, the provider of blood components for local hospitals. The event will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20 at 1401 E. 12th St., inside Conference Room C.

To donate, contact Katie Gott at 815-539-1422 or visit www.bloodcenter.org and use code 3572 to locate the drive.

Potential donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with parental permission form available through www.bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo ID is required to donate. For questions about eligibility, call ImpactLife at 1-800-747-5401. Donors who last gave blood on or before Nov. 25, 2022, are eligible to give at this drive.

Blood donation is a safe, simple procedure that takes about 45 minutes to an hour. Individuals with diabetes or controlled high blood pressure may be accepted as eligible donors.

ImpactLife is the provider of blood and blood components to more than 125 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin.

St. Bede Academy Illinois State Scholars recognized

PERU – Saint Bede Academy Principal, Nick McLaughlin, is pleased to announce that five Academy students have been recognized as "2022-23 Illinois State Scholars."

The honored students include: Kylie Cofoid (Peru Parkside) of LaSalle, Kristal De La Torre (Trinity Catholic Academy) of Oglesby, Gianna Grivetti (Peru Catholic) of Ladd, Madelyn Torrance (Putnam County Junior High) of Granville, and Isabella Villalobos (Holy Cross School, Mendota) of Princeton.

The prestigious award is given annually by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), which recognizes high school students from across the

state. Illinois State Scholar winners rank in the top 10 percent of high school seniors from 749 high schools across Illinois. Selection is based on SAT, ACT and/or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores, and/or class rank at the end of the junior year. High school guidance counselors work in conjunction with ISAC to determine the winners.

According to McLaughlin, "These students have challenged themselves with our most rigorous curriculum. Their efforts and hard work exemplify the standards set forth by the Illinois State Scholar program. We continue to be delighted by the prestige of this honor and the ability of our students to meet the requirements set



Isabella Villalobos

forth by the Commission."

The recognition does not include a monetary award, but recipients are encouraged to cite the honor on college admission forms, applications and scholarship applications.



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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Burton H. Wolf

LaMOILLE – Burton H. Wolf, 92, of LaMoille, passed away Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023 at Aperion Care, Princeton.

Funeral services will be Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023 at 12:30 p.m. at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church on the Hill), Princeton with Rev. Wayne Derber officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery with military honors by the Ladd American Legion. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday at the church. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Burton was born Feb. 17, 1930 in Spring Valley to Emil and Ella (Hassler) Wolf. He married Elaine Bell on Aug. 12, 1956 at Hollowayville United Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife Elaine of LaMoille; his seven children, Kevin Wolf, Jeff (Leslie) Wolf, Todd (Kris) Wolf, Terrill Wolf, Rhonda (Greg) Gott, Tim (Katie) Wolf and Angela (Lee) Hewitt; 10 grandchildren, Josh Wolf, Jason Wolf, Tyler Wolf, Wyatt Gott, Madeline Hewitt, Teagan Hewitt, Jack Killin, Grace Killin, Alex Killin and Charlotte Wolf; and his sister Ione (Carl) Holm.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Burton was a 1947 graduate of Spring Valley High School. He served in the United States Army Airborne, 11th Division from 1953-1955. He was a member of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church and a life member of the NRA. He was a retired caretaker of the Bache Memorial Chapel in Van Orin. Burton was an avid outdoorsman and especially liked squirrel hunting.

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



Jane E. Dilbeck

MENDOTA – Jane E. Dilbeck, 78, of Mendota, passed away Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023 at Heritage Health, Mendota surrounded by her family.

Funeral services were Friday, Jan. 13, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at Community United Methodist Church, LaMoille with Rev. David Jungnickel officiating. Burial was at Wisner Cemetery. Visitation was Thursday from 5-7 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota.

Jane was born Aug. 27, 1944 in Mendota to Melvin and Doris (Alshouse) Feik. She married Roger Cogdal and together they had two daughters Denise Cogdal and Cynthia Cogdal. He preceded in 2018. She married David Dilbeck on April 29, 1979 in LaMoille. He preceded in 2011.

She is survived by her daughters Denise (Roger) Walzer of LaMoille, Cynthia (Rodney) Rod of Arlington; her step-daughters Denise (Mike) Iwanicki of Batavia, Deborah (Don) Hill of Mesa, Ariz., Dawn Boucher of Miami Beach, Fla.; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother Richard "Duke" Feik in 2004.

Jane was a 1962 alumni of LaMoille High School. She was a member of Community United Methodist Church where she taught Sunday School and was the church organist for over 25 years. While raising her daughter's she was actively involved with the local youth as a 4-H leader and a bus driver for LaMoille Schools. She was a member of the Wisner Cemetery Board and the Waltham Curling Club. She was past owner of Dilly's Bar and Driving Range and she worked in retail business for many years including 12 years as manager of Family Dollar in Mendota.

Memorials may be directed to the Community United Methodist Church or Mendota Ambulance Department. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Joan M. Winstead

MENDOTA – Joan Marie (Klein) Winstead, 89, passed away Jan. 10, 2023 at LaSalle County Nursing Home where she had lived a short time.

Cremation rites will be accorded. A memorial Mass will be said May 2, 2023 at 7 a.m. at Holy Cross Catholic Church Mendota. Wasmer Funeral Home is privileged to assist the family.

Joan was born March 10, 1933 in Harris Hospital the daughter of Harry and Helen (Moyer) Klein of Peterstown. She attended St. Peter and Paul Catholic School and Mendota High School.

Joan will be deeply missed by her sons Mark Winstead of Dallas, Texas, and Kevin (Karen) Winstead of Arnold, Md.; grandsons Bryan and Nicholas; nine nieces and nephews, and 11 great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 54 years, Finley on July 13, 2006, son Thomas in 1958, daughter Cheryl in 1956, a sister Delores in infancy, sister Chris Bankes, and brothers John Klein and David Klein.

She moved to the Nation's Capital and worked as a secretary for the Navy's Judge Advocate General. Joan met her future husband Finley G. Winstead, and they married on Aug. 30, 1952 at St. Matthews Cathedral in Washington D.C. While Finley was in the Navy they lived in Karachi, Pakistan, Norfolk, Va., Yokosuka, Japan, and New Orleans. While in Japan she worked as a Red Cross volunteer, and taught English to Japanese college students. When her husband retired from the Navy they moved back to Mendota where they both worked at Conco in the engineering department. After their sons graduated, Joan and Finley moved to Minnesota, Lakeland, Fla., and back to Mendota to help her ailing father, and eventually her mother.

The Winsteds managed the Westridge Apartments while in Mendota. They moved back to Florida, began traveling a lot, became Park Rangers in Alaska for a time, and lived in Los Angeles, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Dallas and Ft. Lauderdale. After the death of her husband Joan returned home to Mendota a final time.

Memorials may be directed to the United States Service Branch of choice. Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.

The latest Obituaries are at www.mendotareporter.com

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Mendota students on Olivet Dean's List

BOURBONNAIS – Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais has announced its Fall 2022 Dean's List. Among the students making the Dean's List are Francine Brandt and Noah DeLong, both of Mendota.

To qualify for inclusion on the Dean's List, a student must have been enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and must have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 grading scale.

Olivet Nazarene University is an accredited Christian, liberal arts university offering more than 140 areas of undergraduate and graduate study, including the Doctor of Education in ethical leadership.

WIU names Fall Dean's List students

MACOMB/MOLINE – A total of 1,103 undergraduate students enrolled at Western Illinois University were named to the Fall 2022 Dean's List. The total includes 98 students at the WIU-Quad Cities Campus.

Among the students earning the achievement are Wyatt A. Cole, Isabella M. Harp and Robert J. McCoy, all of Earlville; Elizabeth Bresley of Mendota; and Leah Metcalf and Elizabeth A. Orwig, both of Ohio.

To receive this award, an undergraduate student must earn at least a 3.6 grade point average on a scale of 4.0, which equals an A in a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded courses; pass-fail hours are not counted (e.g., student teaching, internships).

Local students make Bradley Dean's List

PEORIA – More than 1,800 students were named to Bradley University's Fall 2022 Dean's List. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester on a 4.0 scale.

Among those students achieving the honor were Meghann Harness of Earlville, majoring in Social Work; Caleb Sarff of LaMoille, majoring in Industrial Engineering Supply Chain Analytics; and Samuel Lawrence of Mendota, majoring in Civil Engineering.

Bradley University is a top-ranked, private university in Peoria, offering nearly 6,000 undergraduate and graduate students opportunities, choices, and resources to build their futures.

Mendotans on Marquette U. Dean's List

MILWAUKEE, Wis. – Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis., has announced its Dean's List for the fall 2022 semester.

Among the students achieving the honor are Brooke Carroll of Mendota, pursuing a Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies, and Elly Buettner of Mendota, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

To make the Dean's List, students must have earned at least 12 credits for the fall 2022 semester and have no disqualifying grades. The GPA threshold varies by college – for the College of Education and the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences, undergraduate students must have at least a 3.7 to be named to the Dean's List.

The undergraduate GPA requirement is 3.5 for the following colleges: the Diederich College of Communication, the College of Business Administration, the College of Health Sciences, the Opus College of Engineering and the College of Nursing. All other programs have a 3.75 GPA minimum.

Marquette University is a Catholic, Jesuit university that draws over 7,500 undergraduate and 3,500 graduate and professional students from nearly all states and more than 60 countries.

Area students named to NIU Dean's List

DeKALB – Northern Illinois University announces its fall 2022 Dean's List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Area students who achieved this honor include:

Earlville – Nelson Greer, Pre-Computer Science; Landon Larkin, Finance; Harrison Vallaro, Manufacturing Engineering Tech.

Leland – Courtney Cameron, ELED-Reading Teacher
Mendota – Hannah Ambler, Psychology; Katee Johnson, Environmental Studies; Kevin Lewis Jr, Mechatronics Engineering; Elizabeth Medina, Early Childhood Education; Evan Stielow, Biomedical Engineering; Katherine Wohrley, Mathematics Education.

Northern Illinois University is a student-centered, nationally recognized public research university, with expertise that benefits its region and spans the globe in a wide variety of fields, including the sciences, humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health and law.

Mendotans earn degrees from NIU

DeKALB – Over 1,100 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in December.

Among the graduates are Tasha Arteaga, Master of Science, Family Nurse Practitioner, and Lillian Rodrigues, Bachelor of Science, Nursing, both from Mendota.

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 \$50 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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Where is it... in Mendota?

HOW TO ENTER:
If you know where this scene is located in Mendota, write the answer briefly and concisely on a slip of paper and drop it off or mail it to The Mendota Reporter Office. All entries must be received no later than noon on Monday. One correct answer will be drawn each week. Prizes must be picked up at the Mendota Reporter Office.

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LOCAL AND AREA

HONOR ROLL

Holy Cross School

MENDOTA—Holy Cross School in Mendota has named its Second Quarter Honor Roll students for the 2022-23 school year.

8th Grade

High Honor Roll—Emily Diaz, Nolan Hagenbuch, Elaina Koch, Kara Miars, Alexandrew Tillman

Honor Roll—James Whitmore

7th Grade

High Honor Roll — Komen Denault, Corbin Doll, Karson Doyle, Bear Fitzpatrick, Leah Henkel, Kaylee MacDonald, Abby Magallanes, Gaby Martinez, Kamilah Preciado, Maddox Rosales, Leah Schwemlein, Elsie Soliman, Ross Sondgeroth, Cole Tillman, Charley Wilson

Honor Roll—Mei Booth, Charlee Dankenbring, Hayley Diaz, Giselle Gonzalez, Shea Kreiser, Ashlynn Rickels

6th Grade

High Honor Roll — Rae-gan Atherton, Eva Beetz, Joseph Cackley, Damien Dissell, Cal Doyle, Quinn Eddy, Liam Jones, Catherine Moench, Kyla Muhlstadt, Yulissia Quintana

Honor Roll — Rafael Arteaga, Claire Atherton, Will Aughenbaugh, Abby Delao, Elesea Denk, Nora Rhynedance

5th Grade

High Honor Roll—Emme Beetz, Leo Engels, Cale Full, Linda MacDonald, Lillie Monterastelli, Camden Pawlowski, Ellye Reppin, Molly Wilson

Honor Roll — Blake Cyrocki, Sophia Figueroa

B.U.G. Roll — Sophia Figueroa

4th Grade

B.U.G. Roll — Mason Atherton, Brady Aughenbaugh, Nicole Cervantes, Samantha Escatel, Scout Fitzpatrick, Henry Happ, Nolan Henkel, Paul Hochstatter, MingXi Huang, Sofia Lemus, George Rhynedance, Brooklyn Shakespeare, Jaxson Zimmerlein

3rd Grade

B.U.G. Roll—Rose Beetz, Bridget Cackley, Carissa Doll, Isabel Lemus, Addison Mathesius, Noah Mathesius, Juliana Ortiz, Eliana Regan, Ellyn Schmidt

2nd Grade

B.U.G. Roll — McKenna Faber, Shayne Full, Morgan Happ, Alexia Lerma, Cecilia Ortiz

1st Grade

B.U.G. Roll — Sydney Beetz, Rory Eich, Zaden Greer, Emmersen Piller, Jason Rhynedance

Kindergarten

B.U.G. Roll — Savannah Colburn, Arya Gann, Linnea Hornung, Liam Stewart



AgView FS manager David Horras, left, with IVCC's Jolene Bobinski, ag student Willard Mott, ag program coordinator; and Jerry Corcoran, IVCC president. Bobinski is interning at AgView through an 'earn and learn' program. (Photo contributed)

Agribusinesses to participate in IVCC Ag Job and Internship Fair

OGLESBY—More than a dozen agribusiness employers are expected to participate in Illinois Valley Community College's Agriculture Job and Internship Fair from 9 a.m. to noon, Thursday, Jan. 26 in the Ralph Scriba Conference Center, CTC124-125.

IVCC students begin the fair at 9 a.m. before it opens to the public at 10 a.m. Participants will learn about immediate employment and internship opportunities.

Non-ag students seeking employment and careers in natural science, research, engineering, finance, business, trucking, welding,

conservation and more are welcome.

"Modern agriculture offers numerous non-farm careers," said IVCC Dean of Natural Sciences and Business Ron Groleau.

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

Ag-related businesses are still welcome to participate by contacting Lisa Witalka at Lisa_Witalka@ivcc.edu or (815) 224-0502.

Quilt

Continued from Page A1

"I made quilts for all four of my children, my grandchildren, my great-grandchildren, and now I'm working on my great-great-grandchildren," Prentice said. "I already have a yellow quilt picked out and started for my newest great-great grandchild. There is one little guy that doesn't have his yet, but he'll get it, I'm just piecing it together.

"It was just a bug and it bit me. I just had to keep doing another one after I finished a quilt. I had an idea already ready to go and I wanted to try it for the next quilt. You can call it an obsession, but you get started and you come up with different ideas.

"Once I got started, I didn't want to quit quilting. I still don't want to quit."

With 47 years of quilting

comes memories.

Prentice has formed memories tied to each of her family members including her children, their children, her husband James Prentice, who passed away from lung cancer in 2005, her mother Rosemary, and her grandmother Mini.

"My mother and I both used to enter quilts in the Mendota Tri-County Fair," Prentice said. "It was fun to compete against my mother. It was interesting. Sometimes I would get a blue ribbon and sometimes she won the blue ribbon."

Now, Prentice is hoping the traditions will pass on.

Building memories of your loved ones, being excited about new ideas, and creating bonds through quilting whether those bonds are with a school, a fair, or a loved one.

"I feel like it's a family tradition. When I made my first quilt, I thought, 'I'm going to do a quilt just to carry it on for one more generation.' I was hoping either my daughters or my granddaughters or someone would pick it up," Prentice said. "It hasn't happened yet, and I have a feeling that it's not going to be passed on because everyone is so busy with their jobs and everything they do.

"They also have small kids. When I started quilting, my twin boys (Brad, passed away in 2021 and Tim) were 15, I had a 13-year-old daughter (Kim) and 9-year-old daughter (Kelly). I began in my early 40s.

"I'm 81, so I want to get everyone a quilt before I leave this world. Hopefully, I get to show someone else how to quilt."



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Schwemlein

Schwemleins to mark their 60th wedding anniversary

MENDOTA — Richard and Lois (Henkel) Schwemlein of Mendota will be celebrating their Diamond Anniversary on Jan. 19, 2023. They were married Jan. 19, 1963, at Holy Cross Church in Mendota.

They are the parents of Rodney Schwemlein, Lisa (Ron) Clauson, Duane (Natalie) Schwemlein, and Steven

(Tracy) Schwemlein. Their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and other family members and friends wish them a very happy anniversary and many more.

Anyone wanting to wish the Schwemleins a happy anniversary may send cards to Richard and Lois Schwemlein, 4371 E. 250th Road, Mendota IL 61342.



IVCC looking for choir singers

OGLESBY — Illinois Valley Community College's choir is looking for singers from the community to join its group on Monday evenings.

Choir director Jenilyn Roether said the group meets 6 to 7:40 p.m. Mondays in Room D223. They will accept new members through Jan. 23. There are no rehearsals Feb. 20 and March 6.

"Anyone 16 and older may join," said Roether. "No experience is necessary, but a love of singing is."

Spring semester will culminate with a concert at 7 p.m. Monday, May 1. For information, email jenilyn_roether@ivcc.edu or call (815) 224-0223 and leave a message.

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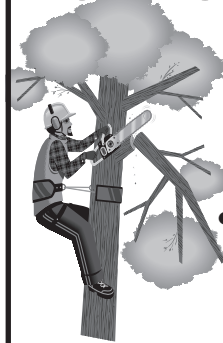


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Animals-Pet Waste Ordinance

• The purpose of this section is to establish requirements for the proper disposal of pet solid waste in the City of Mendota so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

• Requirement for disposal. All pet owners and keepers are required to immediately and properly dispose of their pet's solid waste deposited on any property, public or private, not owned or possessed by that person.

• Exemptions. Any owner or keeper who requires the use of a disability assistance animal shall be exempt from the provisions of this section while such animal is being used for that purpose.

• Violations and penalties. Any person(s) who is found to have violated the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine of no less than \$25 and no more than \$75.

OPINION



Award-winning Newspaper IPA/NINA
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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.

Bad thing for democracy

By Scott Reeder

Instead of a coronation we ended up with an election. How is that a bad thing in a democracy?

It took 15 roll call votes to elect Kevin McCarthy speaker of the House. The political chattering class is calling it a national “embarrassment” and labeled each prolonged vote a “humiliation” for McCarthy. Well, maybe.

By its nature, democracy is supposed to be messy. It’s often about building coalitions and holding them. In democracies such as France, Italy, Germany and Israel, multiple roll calls and succession fights are routine. The U.S. is really the outlier in that regard.

Do I identify with that small group of Republicans who held out? Nope. But they effectively used what votes they had to maximize their power. That’s how politics works.

When I covered the Illinois General Assembly, I saw this strategy time and time again. Then-House Speaker Mike Madigan would negotiate a budget with the governor and the other legislative leaders and a faction of his caucus would threaten to withhold their coalition’s votes – unless they received funding for a particular program or support on a desired initiative.

Other lawmakers would complain about the entire legislature being “held hostage” but inevitably compromise was reached and lawmakers would head home happy. They were engaging in smart politics – using their solidarity to magnify their power.

The same thing was happening with the Freedom Caucus in Washington. With Republicans holding a razor thin majority, they were able to gain an out-sized voice in policymaking.

Here is what U.S. Rep. Mary Miller, R-Oakland, said the Freedom Caucus gained:

The power to block an omnibus spending bill from the Senate.

The power to eliminate waste by making direct budget cuts to the federal bureaucracy and spending caps to cut spending.

A balanced federal budget over the next 10 years.

A committee to investigate the “weaponization of the federal government,” including the Department of Justice.

A Southern border security plan.

The end of COVID mandates and funding for them.

Requiring 72 hours to read a bill before the vote.

The power for one member to call a vote for a new speaker.

Some of the concessions made to the caucus may prove to be positive such as a 72-hour waiting period before bills can be voted on within the House. Such a measure may improve transparency and debate.

Other concessions will likely prove problematic. For example, allowing just one disgruntled member of Congress to call for a new vote for speaker has the potential to throw the entire chamber into a state of perpetual chaos.

Then again, such disruptive efforts could easily be thwarted if Republicans and Democrats join to knock them down. That’s a big “if,” but the Freedom Caucus’ gains have the potential to cause more mainstream Republicans and Democrats to work together.

One need only look back in Illinois history to see how that could work. In 1975, state Rep. Bill Redmond was elected speaker of the Illinois House – after 93 rollcalls.

Democrats held the majority but were divided. Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and Gov. Dan Walker were at loggerheads over who to support.

Much as the Republicans in Congress fought it out this month, Democrats in that era of bell-bottom jeans and disco music were unable to reach consensus.

My friend Mike Lawrence, a statehouse reporter at the time, said it came down to a contest between Democrats Clyde Choate, from Anna, and Redmond, from Bensonville. Republicans viewed the matter as a Democratic squabble and steered clear.

But after 93 votes and no winner, a freshman Republican named Lee Daniels stepped forward and voted for Redmond.

“When Daniels said, ‘I vote Redmond,’ the place went up for grabs and my recollection is that the rollcall stopped. I believe the House recessed. ... I ran out on the floor right for Daniel’s desk and there were Republicans all around Daniel’s, just giving him the devil and telling him he was all through in the Republican Party.”

Daniels, of course, eventually became leader of the GOP caucus and later served a term as speaker of the House in the 1990s.

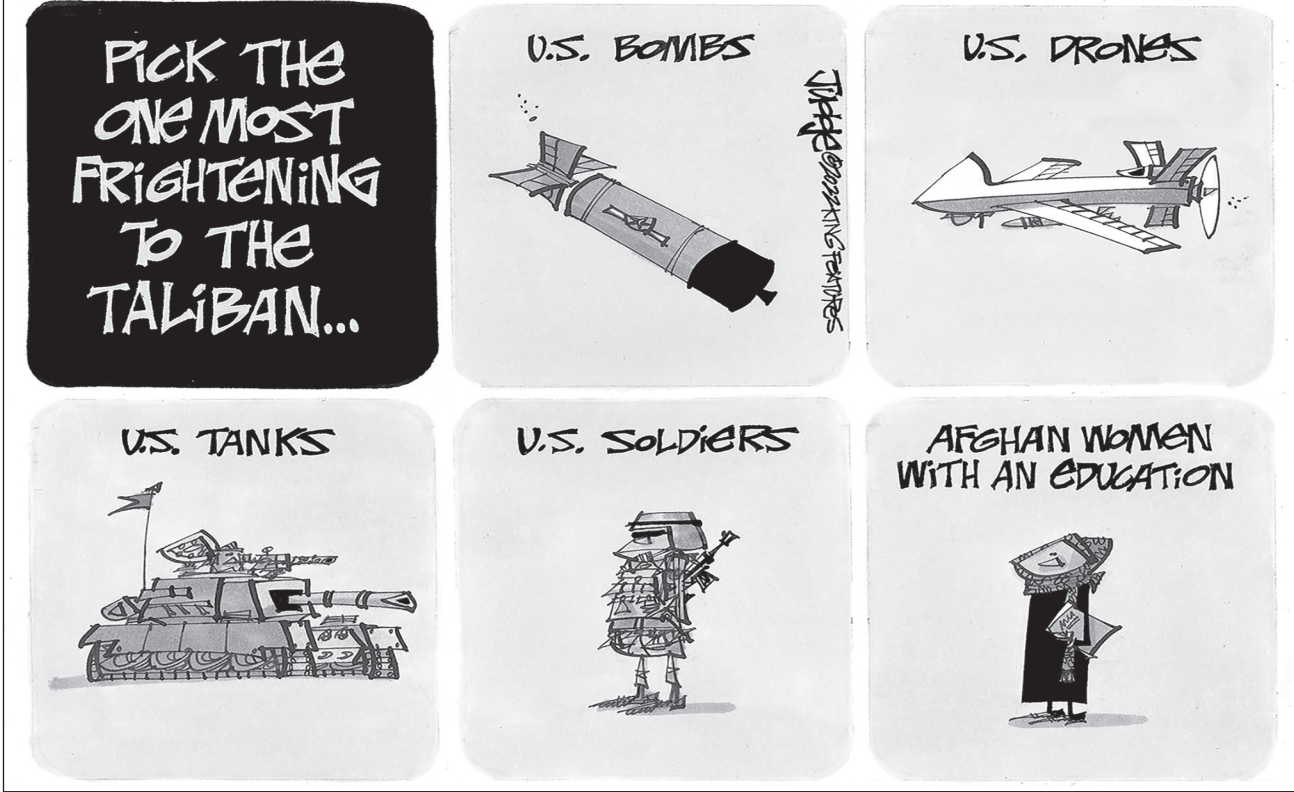
As I watched Republicans in Washington this month struggle within a divided caucus to elect a speaker, I kept waiting for a similar act from one of the 212 Democrats. It would have just taken one to step forward and vote to break the impasse.

It would have been an act of bipartisan statesmanship. But it didn’t happen. But it is not too late. The far-right Freedom Caucus will try to bring McCarthy and the chamber to their knees.

Either members of both parties will reach across the aisle and work in a bipartisan manner or we inherit chaos.

The question for members of Congress is: “Do you love your party more than your nation?”

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



Mendota Post 540 makes Hall of Fame – 1947

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from Jan. 22, 1997.)

By Jessica Nashold

Fifty years ago, Mendota American Legion Post 540 had cause for rejoicing. On Jan. 16, 1947, the Post was awarded the American Legion Hall of Fame trophy for 1946. This was a state award given to the Post, which had engaged in activities of most direct benefit to its community during the year.

There were 1,053 American Legion Posts in Illinois. This was only the second time a post in a small community had received the honor.

The Mendota Post had sponsored a Boy Scout Troop for 18 years and in 1946 it earned the Fred A. Sauer Memorial Trophy as outstanding troop in the north section of the Starved Rock area.

The Mendota Post had also sponsored a junior baseball team, which won the Illinois Valley championship in 1946 and advanced to the national tournament in Dayton, Ohio. Although defeated in the second round there, the Mendota team was bested by a California team that went on to win the national championship.

The trophy presented to Post 540 was a bronze plaque, 18 inches square, suitable for either outdoor or indoor installation. The lettering –

1946 to Mendota Post No. 540, the American Legion, Mendota, Illinois. In recognition of unselfish Community Service for well-rounded Civic program of activities.

The names of local and department commanders and adjutants were listed on the plaque.

On Jan. 25, 1947, a religious census was taken in Mendota. Workers met at Lutheran parish hall, then fanned out to visit every household in town during the afternoon. They recorded the church affiliation or church preference of each individual. Mendotans were urged to “be home” that Sunday afternoon and to give the information “courteously and completely.”

A central committee comprised of one layman from each church compiled

Backtracks & Sidetracks

a master list and forwarded to pastors the names of those who had expressed a preference for their denomination.

The Board of Education for MHS received a letter signed by the teaching staff and maintenance employees expressing appreciation for cost of living increases, which had become effective Jan. 1, 1947. The board also voted to increase the wages of part-time school bus drivers by 50 cents.

The new rate is \$4.50 per day.

A fifth school bus, which had been on order with Prescott Brothers since April 1946, was delivered in January 1947. Post-war shortages were responsible for the lengthy delay. The new bus had 40-passenger capacity and was being held in reserve. The four regular buses traveled 1,700 miles per week.

Supt. M.E. Steele had been in charge of routing and directing the school bus service, but he now delegated these duties to Owen Madden, who also taught history and industrial arts at MHS.

Mendota High received war surplus metal working equipment from the War Assets Administration. The value to shop and automotive courses to date had been about \$6,000.

The only cost to the school was for cost of shipping.

A freak storm on Jan. 29, 1947, caused extended power outages as sleet-covered branches fell on lines and broke them. The Mendota Reporter was unable to operate presses in timely fashion. The linotype machines were also inoperative for a time.

This delayed The Reporter as metal had to be remelted, which took an hour.

The Chamber of Commerce held

a farewell party at the Elks on Jan. 23, 1947, for Walter T. Woodcock, its executive secretary. Woodcock had served since the Mendota Chamber was organized in 1945. He received a gold cigarette lighter as a going away gift and a scroll naming him a permanent honorary citizen of Mendota.

It was during Woodcock’s tenure that Mendota was tagged “The World’s Greatest Little City.”

On Jan. 24, 1947, a Burlington bus skidded into the southwest corner of the Illinois Central freight house about 3:45 a.m. Dr. Edgar Cook, physician for the Burlington, examined passengers for injuries, none proving serious. The freight house had bricks knocked out and the state highway sign was damaged.

The bus was able to proceed on its own power.

The H.D. Hume Co., which had produced 5,000 bat and tine reels in 1946, planned to increase production of this harvesting equipment to 10,000-12,000 in 1947.

Work resumed in dredging out the Mendota creek as it passed through the business district. A Dixon contractor was in charge and was trying to get special equipment to work under the bridge and buildings on Washington Street.

Mayor Momeny is determined to do everything possible to avert future floods.

Ruth Doenier’s journalism class benefited from three field trips to Wayside Press. The students were conducted on tours through every department at the press by Bob Moss, Paul Jacob, Rich McCray, Wes Yenerich and Ken Butler.

On Jan. 18, 1947, an auction of eight rooms of furniture was held at the H.W. Loy home on North Guiles Avenue. An aerial view, published in The Reporter, showed 250-300 cars parked in that vicinity during the sale. Frank Stephens was auctioneer and Roy McInturf was clerk.

They obtained the highest prices ever paid for similar items.

Not all conspiracy theories are equal

By Rich Lowry

The same people who pride themselves on rigorously insisting on the facts -- ideally, explained in the dulcet tones of an NPR anchor -- are happy to embrace conspiracy theories supportive of their own worldview.

This is why the idea that Russian disinformation on social media influenced or even decided the 2016 election has gained such purchase, even though a new study finds, unsurprisingly, no evidence for it.

The overwhelming focus on the Russian influence operation in the wake of 2016 was classic conspiratorial thinking -- an unusual or unwelcome event, namely Trump’s shocking victory, was attributed to the machinations of a small, shadowy group of malefactors.

This fevered notion fueled Democratic 2016 election denialism; catalyzed a federal investigation into Trump that was senseless and disruptive; created a cottage industry of supposed disinformation experts; pushed social media companies into exercising rank political censorship in the name of fact-based content moderation; led to the suppression of the Hunter Biden laptop story; and distorted the work of the FBI, which made itself an adjunct of the progressive crusade against such supposedly pervasive and incredibly consequential disinformation.

The effects of all of this are still with us today. The panic over disinformation is the backdrop to many of the “Twitter Files” releases, which will be followed up with hearings by House Republicans.

It always seemed unlikely that a challenge beyond the grasp of American politicians with endless resources and extensive knowledge of our political system -- namely, swaying an election based on some random, not-very-good social media posts -- would be easily within reach of clueless Russians wielding a bunch of bots.

The new report published by Nature Communications (affiliated with the famous journal Nature) is the product of a yearslong research project led by New York University’s Center for Social Media and Politics. For technical reasons, the study focuses on Twitter, although surely its findings are more generally applicable.

It found that even though the scale of the Russian efforts

sounds vast (an estimated 32 million Twitter users exposed to Russia-sponsored posts -- egads!), its reach and measurable effect were negligible.

The report relied on a detailed survey of a subset of Twitter users, finding 1% of people on Twitter accounted for 70% of exposure to Russian tweets, and 10% for 98% of exposure.

In other words, this was not a widespread phenomenon. Indeed, the median exposure to Russian accounts the last month of the election was zero because overall exposure was so tiny.

As one might expect, the Russian accounts were “overshadowed” -- by at least an order of magnitude -- by content from ordinary domestic political news media and U.S. political candidates.”

Was the Russian disinformation carefully targeted for political effect? No. It turns out that the Internet Research Agency, the outfit in charge of the bots, didn’t know how to target American swing voters (maybe they are better at this when trying to influence by-elections in Vladivostok).

The Russian accounts were disproportionately seen by strong Republicans. These weren’t people sitting on the fence, who then saw some crude anti-Hillary meme on social media and thought, “That clinches it -- now I can’t vote for the Democrat I’ve disdained literally for decades.”

The study found, naturally, “The relationship between the number of posts from Russian foreign influence accounts that users are exposed to and voting for Donald Trump is near zero.” Nor did Russian posts influence attitudes toward the issues or drive increased polarization.

It turns out that random drivel produced by foreigners and thrown into the enormous, all-consuming maw of American social media doesn’t have much effect.

If the report’s findings were more politically convenient, they would by spread far and wide by traditional media outlets urging everyone to accept its conclusions as “science.”

In the end, it turns out, the biggest success of the Russian operation was driving a segment of American political opinion completely mad.

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

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Hollywood

Hollywood



Q: I really enjoyed Paul Reiser in the comedy series "Reboot." It made me wonder whatever happened to Helen Hunt? The last time

Answers
Solution time: 22 mins.

She co-starred with Tom Hanks in "Cast Away," in 2000, and while her roles haven't been as high-profile

However, Carver (Jake Lockett) was left feeling guilty because Stella (Miranda Rae Mayo) was seriously injured after jumping in front of him during an explosion. Pryma (Troy Winbush) also survived, but suffered a broken leg.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Energy
4 Amtrak express
9 Sushi fish
12 Praise in verse
13 VIP on Air Force One
14 Tennis feat
15 Museum piece
17 Train lines (Abbr.)
18 Sprite
19 Holler
21 Word game with dice
24 Horseshoe site
25 Brit. record label
26 Not 'neath
28 Bolivian city
31 Wilson's predecessor
33 Observe
35 Castle
36 Capar
38 Music booster
40 GPS suggestion
41 Skip
43 Television array
45 Soft and weak
47 Kanga's kid
48 Use a shovel
49 Land in the Irish Sea

DOWN

1 Pledge
2 Wedding words
3 Mal de —
4 Moon mission
5 Brewed beverages
6 JFK info

7 "The Addams Family" butler
8 Houston team
9 Picnic veggie
10 Beige
11 For fear that
16 Small barrel
20 Thy
21 Alpha follower
22 Muscat's land
23 Eloquent person's talent
27 Actor Stephen
29 Memory method
30 Stretches (out)
32 Marathoner's stat

34 Catherine, notably
37 Municipalities
39 "Nuts!"
42 Inventor Nikola
44 Gut-punch reaction
45 Wax-coated cheese
46 Rover's pal
50 Fleur-de- —
51 Oft-tattooed word
52 Jurist Fortas
53 Kibosh

21	22	23			
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14	Force One	25			
15	Tennis feat	31			32
16	Museum piece	36			
17	Train lines (Abbr.)				
18	Sprite			41	
19	Holler	45	46		
20	Word game with dice	48			
21	Horseshoe site	54			
22	Brit. record label	57			
23	Not 'neath	54	Oklahoma ci		
24	Bolivian city	55	Beethoven's "		
25	Wilson's pre-decessor	56	"Fuer — "		
26	Observe	57	Kimono sash		
27	Castle	58	Unruly group		
28	Caper	59	Impudent		
29	Music booster		59	Tex- — cui-	
30	GPS suggestion		sine		
31	Skip	DOWN			
32	Teletthon array	1	Pledge		
33	Soft and weak	2	Wedding words		
34	Kanga's kid	3	Mal de —		
35	Use a shovel	4	Mal de mission		
36	Land in the Irish Sea	5	Brewed beverages		
			JFK info		

But his 77-year-old co-star, Oscar winner Helen Mirren, is no slouch either. Both "Golda" (as in Golda Meir) and "Shazam! Fury of the Gods," with Zachary Levi, hit screens this March, followed by "Fast X" and "White Bird: A Wonder Story" this May.

Another infuriated Gould lunged at me, grabbed my heavy Nikon Camera chain, and lifted me off the ground. He threw me into the street, pummeling me against a parked car. Doctors at UCLA Medical Center said I had a dislocated shoulder as well as other injuries. It took three years to get to court, at which time I won all three charges for battery against him. I was awarded four figures, but I told Gould that at the time, it wasn't about money. It was about

A few weeks ago, I went into a local Smart & Final store, and when I reached the glass cleaner aisle, I was astounded to see Elliot Gould there. I said to him, "Do you recognize me?" He said, "You look familiar." I replied, "Does the name Tony Rizzo mean anything?" "Oh," he said, "You're that guy who won a lawsuit against me." I said, "I hope you know I never blamed you. You, Ryan O'Neal, Don Johnson and Jon Peters all acted as Barbra's protectors when she saw photographers and flipped out." I asked him why he was there, and he just said, "My maid sent me to get Windex." Such is the price of fame and fortune!

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Couch Theater

teenagers in the neighborhood. As she builds her own tightknit group of friends, the kids start wreaking good ol' teenage havoc in the Forman basement, just as the original '70s gang did before them. Debra Jo Rupp and Kurtwood Smith are the perfect parents.


Even though they all come from different backgrounds, the girls find themselves at a level playing field as they make their first ventures out into the “real world.” Without parental supervision and with more freedom than they’ve ever had before, they attempt to navigate adulthood in the only way 18-year-olds know how: the occasional crash and burn. Created by Mindy Kaling and Justin Noble, this comedy series is full of great laughs and heartwarming moments, beautifully encapsulating the beginning years of adulthood. The first two seasons are out now! (HBO Max)

"Vengeance" (R) — B.J. Novak stars as Ben Manalowitz, a journalist from New York who receives a call from Ty Shaw (Boyd Holbrook), the brother of one of his former hookups, Abby. Under the impression that Abby was Ben's girlfriend, Ty announces that Abby passed away due to a drug overdose.

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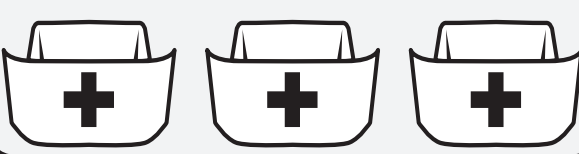
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by Linda Thistle

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

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TAX PREP GUIDE

IRS sets Jan. 23 as official start to 2023 tax filing season; more help available for taxpayers this year

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Internal Revenue Service announced Monday, Jan. 23, 2023, as the beginning of the nation's 2023 tax season when the agency will begin accepting and processing 2022 tax year returns.

More than 168 million individual tax returns are expected to be filed, with the vast majority of those coming before the April 18 tax deadline. People have three extra days to file this year due to the calendar.

With the three previous tax seasons dramatically impacted by the pandemic, the IRS has taken additional steps for 2023 to improve service for taxpayers. As part of the August passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, the IRS has hired more than 5,000 new telephone assistants and added more in-person staff to help support taxpayers.

"This filing season is the first to benefit the IRS and our nation's tax system from multi-year funding in the Inflation Reduction Act," said Acting IRS Commissioner Doug O'Donnell. "With these new additional resources, taxpayers and tax professionals will see improvements in many areas of the agency this year. We've trained thousands of new employees to answer phones and help people. While much work remains after several difficult years, we expect people to experience improvements this tax season. That's just the start as we work to add new long-term transformation efforts that will make things even smoother in future years. We are very excited to begin to deliver what taxpayers want and our employees know we could do with this funding."

These steps took place as the IRS worked for months to prepare for the 2023 tax season. The Jan. 23 start date for individual tax return filers allows the IRS time to perform annual updates and readiness work that are critical to ensuring IRS systems run smoothly. This is the date IRS systems officially begin accepting tax returns. Many software providers and tax professionals are already accepting tax returns; they will transmit those returns



to the IRS when the agency begins accepting tax returns on Jan. 23.

The IRS urges people to have all the information they need before they file a tax return. Filing a complete and accurate tax return can avoid extensive processing and refund delays as well as avoid the possibility of needing to file an amended tax return.

In addition, the IRS encourages people to carefully review their tax situation to make sure they don't overlook important tax credits they may be eligible for, like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The IRS has set a special day on Jan. 27 to encourage people to make sure they understand the important benefits of the EITC, a credit that can help low- and moderate-income workers and families.

The IRS has a variety of free services available to help people. The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling for the Elderly programs also offer free basic tax return preparation to qualified individuals. People can also get help from trusted tax professionals, commercially available tax software as well as IRS Free File, which provides free electronic filing of tax returns.

April 18 tax filing deadline in 2023

The filing deadline to submit 2022 tax returns or an extension to file and pay tax owed is Tuesday, April 18, 2023, for most taxpayers. By law, Washington, D.C., holidays impact tax deadlines for everyone in the same way as federal holidays. The due date is April 18, instead of April 15, because of the weekend and the District of Columbia's Emancipation Day holiday, which falls on Monday, April 17.

Taxpayers requesting an extension will have until

"With new additional resources, taxpayers and tax professionals will see improvements in many areas of the agency this year. We've trained thousands of new employees to answer phones and help people. While much work remains after several difficult years, we expect people to experience improvements this tax season. That's just the start as we work to add new long-term transformation efforts that will make things even smoother in future years. We are very excited to begin to deliver what taxpayers want and our employees know we could do with this funding."

—Doug O'Donnell,
Acting IRS Commissioner

Monday, Oct. 16, 2023, to file.

Tips to help people with the 2023 tax season

The IRS recommends several things for people to keep in mind for a smooth filing experience this year.

Have the right information before filing. The IRS encourages individuals to have all the information they need before filing a complete and accurate return. Organize and gather 2022 tax records including Social Security numbers, Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers, Adoption Taxpayer Identification Numbers and this year's Identity Protection Personal Identification Numbers valid for calendar year 2023.

Filing an accurate tax return can help taxpayers avoid delays or later IRS notices. Sometimes this means waiting to make sure individuals have accounted for all their income and the related documents. This is especially important for people who may receive one of the various Forms 1099 from banks or other payers reporting unemployment compensation, dividends, pension, annuity or retirement plan distributions.

People should also remember that most income is taxable, including unemployment income, interest received or money earned from the gig economy or digital assets. Individuals should make sure they report the correct amount on their tax return to avoid processing delays.

Visit IRS.gov first for questions. The IRS reminds people to visit IRS.gov first for common questions and also to check on the status of their refunds. IRS.gov has much of the same information that IRS phone assistants have.

The IRS anticipates making significant improvements to phone service this year for taxpayers and tax professionals as more training for new phone assistants is completed in the weeks ahead. However, the IRS emphasizes it's important to note that call volumes remain at historically high levels. The IRS urges people to visit IRS.gov for the information they need.

"Our phone volumes remain at very high levels," O'Donnell said. "For faster access to information, we urge people to start with IRS.gov. From there, taxpayers can quickly access the variety of free resources available to help taxpayers anytime, day or night."

Speed refunds by filing electronically and choosing direct deposit. There are important steps people can take to help ensure their tax return and refund are processed without delays. The most important is to file electronically with direct deposit. This is still the fastest and easiest way to file and receive a refund. To avoid delays in processing, people should avoid filing paper returns wherever possible.

To speed refunds, the IRS urges people to file electronically with direct deposit information as soon as they have everything needed to file an accurate return. Individuals can use a bank account, prepaid debit card or mobile app to use direct deposit and will need to provide routing and account numbers with their return. Learn how to open an account at an FDIC-insured bank or through the National Credit Union Locator Tool.

It's never too early to get ready for the tax-filing season. For more tips and resources, check out the Get Ready page on IRS.gov.

National Taxpayer Advocate report focuses on taxpayer impact of processing and refund delays

WASHINGTON, D.C. — National Taxpayer Advocate Erin M. Collins released her 2022 Annual Report to Congress, saying taxpayers and tax professionals "experienced more misery in 2022" due to paper processing delays and poor customer service. But the report also says the Internal Revenue Service made considerable progress in reducing the volume of unprocessed tax returns and correspondence and is poised to start the 2023 filing season in a stronger position.

The Advocate's report assesses taxpayer service during 2022, identifies the 10 most serious problems taxpayers are experiencing in their dealings with the IRS, and makes administrative and legislative recommendations to address those problems. This year's report recommends specific initiatives that Collins is urging the IRS to include in its plan showing how the additional funding it received in the Inflation Reduction Act will be spent. It also contains two research studies—one on ways to restructure the Earned Income Tax Credit to increase participation among eligible taxpayers while reducing improper payments, and the other designed to help the IRS improve its online operations by studying the functionality of online operations offered by over 40 states and several foreign countries.

Taxpayer service challenges

- Return processing and refund delays. For most taxpayers, the most important function the IRS performs each year is issuing timely tax refunds. In 2022, about two-thirds of individual taxpayers were entitled to refunds, and the average refund amount was nearly \$3,200. The report says the IRS failed to meet its responsibility to pay timely refunds to millions of taxpayers for the third year in a row. About 13 million individual taxpayers filed paper returns. Because of paper processing delays, refunds for these taxpayers were delayed, generally by six months or longer. Millions of e-filed individual returns were "suspended" because they tripped IRS processing filters and required manual review by IRS employees before refunds could be released. Hundreds of thousands of business returns claiming the Employee Retention Tax Credit were delayed.

However, the report says the IRS will be starting the 2023 filing season in much better shape than the last two years. The IRS began 2022 with an unprocessed paper backlog of 4.7 million original individual returns (Forms 1040), 3.2 million original

business returns, and 3.6 million amended returns (individual and business combined). When the Advocate's report went to press in mid-December 2022, the IRS had reduced those backlogs to 1 million original individual returns, 1.5 million original business returns, and 1.5 million amended returns. By Dec. 23, the IRS had further reduced its unprocessed paper backlog of original individual returns to about 400,000 and original business returns to about 1 million. This significant reduction in the paper return inventory will enable the IRS to begin processing paper-filed tax year 2022 returns during the upcoming filing season. That contrasts with the previous two years, when the IRS was not able to process current-year returns until months after the filing season had ended.

The number of returns suspended during processing is the only significant return category in which inventories increased. The IRS entered 2022 with an inventory of 4.2 million suspended returns. The inventory grew to 5.9 million suspended returns by mid-December.

Cases involving suspected identity theft account for about half the inventory of suspended returns. In mid-December, the IRS reported 2.9 million identity theft cases in its inventory. While some will turn out to be fraudulent claims, the IRS website as of Jan. 9 states: "[D]ue to extenuating circumstances caused by the pandemic, our identity theft inventories have increased and on average it is taking about 360 days to resolve identity theft cases." The report calls a year-long delay "unacceptable" and urges the IRS to assign additional employees to process these cases.

- Delays in processing taxpayer correspondence and other cases in the Accounts Management function. The IRS sent millions of notices to taxpayers during 2022. These included 17 million math error notices, Automated Underreporter notices (where an amount reported on a tax return did not match the corresponding amount reported to the IRS on a Form 1099 or other information reporting document), notices requesting a taxpayer authenticate identity where IRS filters flagged a return as potentially fraudulent, correspondence examination notices, and some collection notices. Notices often require written taxpayer responses. If the IRS did not process a taxpayer response, it may have taken adverse

See Report, Page A9

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TAX PREP GUIDE

IRS issues standard mileage rates for 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Internal Revenue Service has issued the 2023 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

As of Jan. 1, 2023, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 65.5 cents per mile driven for business use, up 3 cents from the midyear increase setting the rate for the second half of 2022.
- 22 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes for qualified active-duty members of the Armed Forces, consistent with the increased midyear rate set for the second half of 2022.
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations; the rate is set by statute and remains unchanged from 2022.

These rates apply to electric and hybrid-electric automobiles, as well as gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles.

The standard mileage rate for business use is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs.

It is important to note that under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, taxpayers cannot claim a miscellaneous itemized deduction for unreimbursed employee travel expenses. Taxpayers also cannot claim a deduction for moving expenses, unless they are members of the Armed Forces on active duty moving

under orders to a permanent change of station. For more details see Moving Expenses for Members of the Armed Forces.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates.

Taxpayers can use the standard mileage rate but generally must opt to use it in the first year the car is available for business use. Then, in later years, they can choose either the standard mileage rate or actual expenses. Leased vehicles must use the standard mileage rate method for the entire lease period (including renewals) if the standard mileage rate is chosen.

Notice 2023-03 contains the optional 2023 standard mileage rates, as well as the maximum automobile cost used to calculate the allowance under a fixed and variable rate (FAVR) plan. In addition, the notice provides the maximum fair market value of employer-provided automobiles first made available to employees for personal use in calendar year 2023 for which employers may use the fleet-average valuation rule in or the vehicle cents-per-mile valuation rule.



A few tax prep tips can make the process of filing a return and, if necessary, paying back taxes as pain-free as possible.

Five tax prep tips as tax season nears

Tax season isn't something most people look forward to, particularly if they suspect they owe money. However, a few tax prep tips can make the process of filing a return and, if necessary, paying back taxes as pain-free as possible.

1. Call your tax preparer early. If you use an accountant or another tax preparer, be sure to book the appointment as soon as possible because slots fill up quickly. You don't want to wait until the last minute and find there are no remaining appointments.
2. Establish a tax preparation folder. Beginning in January, certain documents will arrive in the mail that will be needed to file your taxes. Documents include earnings statements, banking interest statements and documents indicating investment profits. When items arrive, stash them in your tax folder so you'll have all necessary paperwork at the ready.
3. Avoid tax scams. As tax season draws near, tax scammers target unsuspecting individuals. You may find that you receive calls or texts from those purporting to be with the Internal Revenue Service. However, financial experts say that the IRS or

the U.S. Treasury will never call you on the phone; their mode of contact is via the U.S. mail. Another scam is individuals advertising a bigger refund when you use their services. This is not how tax laws work nor is it possible to get a return larger than what is owed. Avoid anyone promising a bigger return, advises Bankrate.

4. Consider increasing health spending account contributions. HSAs are triple tax-advantaged, meaning you get an "above-the-line" deduction for contributing, and the growth in these accounts as well as withdrawals are tax-free if used for qualified health expenses. If you need to lower your tax burden, HSAs may be a safe and legal way to do so.
5. Utilize tax software. If you're not using an accountant and have a relatively cut-and-dry financial situation, modern tax software can be an easy and inexpensive way to do your taxes. These sophisticated programs ask a series of detailed questions and the entire process can be completed in relatively little time.

It's almost time to get income taxes in order. Certain tips can make the process go more smoothly.

Report

Continued from Page A8

action against the taxpayer or not released the refund claimed on the tax return. During fiscal year (FY) 2022, it took the IRS an average of 193 days to process taxpayer responses to proposed tax adjustments — about six months. That compares with 89 days in FY 2019, the most recent pre-pandemic year. The report also calls the delays in resolving these cases unacceptable.

• Difficulty reaching the IRS on its toll-free telephone lines. The IRS received 173 million calls during FY 2022. Only 22 million (13%, or roughly one out of eight calls) got through to an IRS employee. As a result, most callers could not get answers to their tax-law questions, receive help with their account problems, or speak with an employee about compliance notices. Those who got through waited an average of 29 minutes on hold before the call began.

Telephone service for tax professionals was worse than the prior year and hit an all-time low. Because tax professionals prepare the majority of tax returns and often call with complex account-specific questions, the IRS has established a Practitioner Priority Service (PPS) telephone line to handle their calls. In FY 2022, IRS employees answered only 16% of PPS calls (fewer than one out of six), and the average hold time for those who got through was 25 minutes. Telephone delays place tax professionals in the difficult position of billing clients for the time spent trying to reach the IRS or writing off that time. "Tax professionals

are key to a successful tax administration," Collins wrote. "The challenges of the past three filing seasons have pushed tax professionals to their limits, raising client doubts in their abilities and creating a loss of trust in the system."

Outlook for 2023

In the report's preface, Collins predicted that taxpayer service will improve in 2023. "We have begun to see the light at the end of the tunnel," she wrote. "I am just not sure how much further we have to travel before we see sunlight."

The report cites three reasons for optimism: (1) the IRS has largely worked through its backlog of unprocessed tax returns,

even though it remains challenged with a high volume of suspended returns and correspondence; (2) Congress has provided the IRS with significant additional funding to increase its customer service staffing; and (3) with the benefit of Direct Hire Authority, the IRS has recently hired 4,000 new customer service representatives, and it is seeking to hire 700 additional employees to provide in-person help at its Taxpayer Assistance Centers. Direct Hire Authority has enabled the IRS to reduce the number of days from the time it posts an announcement on USAJobs.gov until it onboards a new employee by more than half.



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The Justin Corcoran family

Words cannot express the love and support shown from family, friends and community at the benefit for Johnny Marks on Dec. 10. To say thank you just doesn't seem like enough to all who helped organize and work at the benefit, donated items, bid unbelievable amounts on the auction items and to those who paid for rent of the building, food and drinks so all money raised was straight profit. God bless you everyone.

Families of Johnny & Tennille Marks

POLICE BLOTTER

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Alexander J. Ruby, 29, of 700 Meadowview Drive, Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at Main and Meriden streets at 8:15 a.m. Jan. 11. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Christopher J. Duddy, 44, of 111 S. 13th Ave., Lot C3, Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at Wisconsin Avenue and Meriden Street at 4:07 p.m. Jan. 12. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Jamie L. Christman, 27, of 2100 Lincoln Ave., Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license after

a traffic stop at Fifth Street and 11th Avenue at 9:47 p.m. Jan. 12. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Jimmie R. Weekley, 33, of LaSalle, was arrested at 1:08 a.m. Jan. 15 on a valid LaSalle County warrant for failure to appear/DUI-alcohol. The subject was unable to post bond and was transported to the LaSalle County jail.

SEVERAL CHARGES

Salvador Toribio Lopez, 44, of 710 Jefferson St., Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and suspended registration after a traffic stop at Illinois Avenue and Jefferson Street at 6:08 p.m. Jan. 16. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

Check road conditions before driving

MENDOTA—The Mendota Police Department would like to remind drivers of a few safety tips to keep everyone safe while driving in winter weather conditions.

Take the time to clean the snow and ice from all vehicle windows prior to driving on the road. Keep your speed down to assist in keeping control of your own vehicle when driving on slick icy roads. If traveling long distances remember to pack a few emergency items to take along in the event your vehicle should go off the roadway, including a cell phone, blankets and water.

If you are leaving town and need information regarding road conditions, call 800-452-4368.



Local Cup and Cake

The Village of Sublette welcomes its newest owners of the Local Cup and Cake. John McGraw purchased the business, located at 100 S. Front St., Sublette. A grand reopening is planned for 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., on Saturday, Jan. 21. Presenting an American flag is Sublette Village President John Stenzel, right, to John and Alice McGraw, and son, Tyler. The business is a coffee shop and bakery, offering regular and decaf coffee, coffee drinks, pies, mini desserts, cupcakes, muffins, cookies, donuts, cinnamon rolls, breads, breakfast cups, biscuits and gravy, and other sweet treats. The store is open Tuesday through Friday from 7 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m.-noon, and closed Sunday and Monday. For more information, call 815-994-1044 or email localcupncake@gmail.com. (Photo contributed)

Mendota city council schedule

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

Feb. 6 & 21; March 6 & 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.

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SPORTS

2 MHS bowlers punch ticket to sectional

□ Bauer brothers advancing after their performance in Dixon Regional

MENDOTA – Two Mendota Trojan bowlers are headed to the sectional round of competition after participating in the Dixon Boys’ Regional Bowling Tournament on Jan. 14.

Landon Bauer and Paxton Bauer were both among the top 10 bowlers not on an advancing team, earning them a trip to the sectional. The Trojans missed out on advancing as a team by 16 pins.

Landon Bauer finished in sixth place overall with a 1241 series. He rolled games of 176, 222, 193, 199, 237 and 214. Paxton Bauer took 12th place overall with a 1210 series. He recorded games of 179, 213, 224, 191, 220 and 183.

Four other Mendota bowlers competed in the regional and had their season come to a close. Aiden Kent Tucker had a six-game series of 1104 with games of 188, 178, 194, 181, 192 and 171. Alex Holland finished with a 1034 series with games of 153, 176, 180, 144, 201 and 180. Clay Buffington and Kooper Novak each bowled three games. Buffington (510) had games of 183, 162 and 165, while Novak (576) rolled a 210, 182 and 184.

In the team standings, Oregon won the regional title with a 5830 series. Other teams advancing to the sectional include Freeport (5743), Sterling (5692) and



Landon Bauer, left, and Paxton Bauer both earned a trip to the sectional after participating in the Dixon Boys’ Regional Bowling Tournament on Jan. 14. (Photo contributed)

Geneseo (5690). The Trojans ended in fifth place with a score of 5675.

Landon Bauer and Paxton Bauer will

compete in the Rockford Guilford Sectional on Saturday, Jan. 21 at 10 a.m. at Don Carter Lanes in Rockford.

Girls struggle in 3 losses

Bureau Valley raced out to a double-digit lead in the first quarter and cruised past Mendota, 55-28, in Three Rivers Conference varsity girls’ basketball action on Jan. 9 at the MHS gym.

The Storm opened up a 19-7 advantage after the first stanza and widened the gap to 38-13 at the break.

“We got flat out beat at basically everything,” said Mendota coach John Hansen. “We have got to stop the turnovers.”

Reanna Brant had 12 points, four rebounds and four steals for the Lady Trojans. Katie Jenner and Naitzy Garcia added six points apiece, while Garcia grabbed four boards.

Mendota dug itself another huge hole early in the game and fell to Kewanee, 62-37, in a conference contest on Jan. 11 at Kewanee. The Lady Trojans saw their Three Rivers record dip to 1-6.

Kewanee torched the nylon for 25 first-quarter points while Mendota managed only 10 tallies. The Boiler Girls took a 43-18 lead to the locker room.

“Honestly, I thought we played really well at both ends, I just don’t think Kewanee missed a shot in the first 12 minutes,” stated Hansen.

Mendota got scoring from only three players. Jenner led the way with 22 points and Brant contributed 14 markers and 12 rebounds. Grace Wasmer yanked down six caroms.

The Lady Trojans dropped a 55-18 decision at Rock Falls on Jan. 14.

See Girls, Page B2

BUREAU V. 55, MENDOTA 28

Bureau Valley (55)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Maynard	1	0-0	3	3
Salisbury	5	7-10	0	18
Stoller	6	2-3	3	14
Wasilewski	1	0-0	4	2
Cady	3	0-0	1	6
Neuhalfen	4	0-0	1	8
Egan	2	0-0	0	4
Totals	22	9-13	12	55

Mendota (28)

	FG	FT	Reb	TP
Jenner	1	3-4	1	6
Zinke	0	1-2	1	1
Wasmer	0	0-0	3	0
Brant	4	4-11	4	12
Gonzalez	0	0-0	2	0
Frey	0	0-0	1	0
Schultz	0	0-0	1	0
Reel	1	0-2	2	3
Garcia	3	0-0	4	6
Totals	9	8-19	19	28

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Bureau Valley	19	38	46	55
Mendota	7	13	24	28
Three-point goals: Mendota - Jenner 1, Reel 1; Bureau Valley - Maynard 1, Salisbury 1				

KEWANEE 62, MENDOTA 37

Mendota (37)				
	FG	FT	Reb	TP
Jenner	6	8-11	4	22
Zinke	0	1-2	2	1
Wasmer	0	0-1	6	0
Brant	7	0-0	12	14
Garcia	0	0-0	1	0
Schultz	0	0-0	2	0
Reel	0	0-0	2	0
Totals	13	9-14	29	37

Kewanee (62)

	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Dearing	7	5-5	1	20
Miller	1	0-0	0	2
Yepson	2	0-0	3	5
Tiska	2	0-0	0	4
Meyer	1	0-0	2	2
Duarte	2	0-2	0	4
Stevens	1	0-2	2	2
Amos	3	0-1	0	6
Crofton	6	1-2	1	17
Totals	25	6-12	9	62

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Mendota	10	18	32	37
Kewanee	25	43	56	62
Three-point goals: Mendota - Jenner 2; Kewanee - Dearing 1, Yepson 1, Crofton 4				

Trojans dealt losses by Newman, Rock Falls, Ottawa

Sterling Newman pulled away from Mendota in the second half on its way to a 63-43 triumph over the Trojans in a Three Rivers Conference varsity boys’ basketball contest on Jan. 10 at the MHS gym. Mendota dropped to 1-3 in conference play.

The two teams played to a 13-all tie after the opening stanza and then Newman grabbed a 25-20 halftime lead. The game was still up for grabs (41-34) heading to the fourth frame, where the Comets outscored Mendota, 22-9, to win by a comfortable margin.

Dominik Stamberger led the Trojans with 10 points, while Isaac Guzman and Rafael Romero supplied nine points apiece.

Mendota let a big lead slip away as Rock Falls rallied in the second half for a 71-58 nonconference triumph over the Trojans in a varsity boys’ basketball contest on Jan. 13 at the MHS gym.

The Trojans zoomed out to a 13-3 lead on their way to a 21-12 advantage after the first quarter. Mendota was able to maintain that nine-point lead (37-28) at intermission.

After Romero scored the first bucket of the third quarter for a 39-28 lead, the Rockets started chipping away over the remainder of the frame. The Trojans were still clinging to a 45-40 margin on an Guzman basket with 2:47 to go in the quarter,



Mendota’s Rafael Romero has his shot contested by a pair of Rock Falls defenders, including Chevy Bates, right, on Jan. 13 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

but Rock Falls scored the final six points of the period on back-to-back three-pointers by Aydan Goff and Kuitim Heald to grab a 46-45 lead with one quarter to play.

Heald started the fourth with another trey before a Ryne Strouss free throw

halted a 9-0 Rocket run to make it 49-46 with 7:37 to go. That was as close as the Trojans could get as Rock Falls’ lead reached double figures (59-49) with 3:15 left.

Three Trojans hit double digits in scoring, led by Guzman with 18 points.

Izaiah Nanez was next with 15 markers and Romero added 14.

Ottawa led from start to finish in downing the Trojans, 59-32, in a non-conference game on Jan. 14 at Ottawa.

The Pirates took a 15-5 first-quarter lead and went to the locker room with a comfortable 33-9 margin.

Guzman led the Trojans with nine points, while Stamberger provided seven tallies.

Mendota has a 7-15 record.

MHS grapplers come up short in busy week on mat

Mendota’s wrestlers dropped both ends of a triangular meet at Sterling Newman on Jan. 10.

The host Comets downed the Trojans, 42-24. Wyatt Ossman got the lone mat win for the Trojans, pinning his opponent at the 1:42 mark of their 182-pound bout. Picking up forfeits were Payton Gagliardo (170), Albert Harris (220) and Gabe Vallejo (285).

Against Sherrard, the Trojans suffered a 66-12 setback. Corbin Furar got a pin at 1:50 of his 138-pound match, while Ossman and Harris gained forfeit victories.

Jan. 10

Newman 42, Mendota 24

106 – double forfeit; 113 – Hansen (SN) pinned Cadence Thornton (M), 0:23; 120 – Ivey (SN) won forfeit; 126 – double forfeit; 132 – Messer (SN) pinned Gavin Evans (M), 3:27; 138 – Rude (SN) pinned Jose Hermosillo (M), 1:45; 145 – McDonell

(SN) pinned Lea Turner (M), 1:44; 152 – Geske (SN) pinned Brooke Bailey (M), 1:23; 160 – Francis (SN) pinned Dean Gilbert (M), 3:00; 170 – Payton Gagliardo (M) won forfeit; 182 – Wyatt Ossman (M) pinned Garland (SN), 1:42; 195 – Newberry (SN) pinned Reese Lane (M), 0:42; 220 – Albert Harris (M) won forfeit; 285 – Gabe Vallejo (M) won forfeit

Sherrard 66, Mendota 18

106 – Werner (S) won forfeit; 113 – C. Thomson (S) pinned Thornton (M), 1:56; 120 – Findlay (S) won forfeit; 126 – Bynum (S) won forfeit; 132 – Anderson (S) pinned Sam Christmann (M), 1:52; 138 – Corbin Furar (M) pinned J. Thomson (S), 1:50; 145 – Dalton (S) pinned Rhett Watson (M), 3:00; 152 – Hoke (S) pinned Reyli Sandoval (M), 1:51; 160 – King (S) pinned Gilbert (M), 1:39; 170 – Weakley (S) pinned Gagliardo (M), 0:35; 182 – Ossman (M) won

forfeit; 195 – Anderson (S) pinned Lane (M), 0:38; 220 – Harris (M) won forfeit; 285 – Covey (S) pinned Vallejo (M), 3:56

Mendota participated in the Amboy Junior Varsity Tournament on Jan. 7. The Trojans finished in seventh place out of 14 teams.

Furar (138) and Harris (220) both finished in second place in their respective weight classes. Vallejo (285) took fourth place, while Keegen Stewart (132) and Reese Lane (195) placed sixth.

Mendota was defeated by Monmouth-Roseville and Erie-Prophetstown in a triangular meet at Erie on Jan. 12.

The host school topped the Trojans, 54-24. Brooke Bailey got a pin win for Mendota at 152 pounds, while forfeit victories went to JP Belmonte

(182), Lane (195) and Harris (220).

Against Monmouth-Roseville, the Trojans were on the short end of a 57-24 score. Harris (220), Stewart (132) and Rhett Watson (145) each pinned their opponent, while a forfeit win went to Jose Hermosillo (138).

Jan. 12

Erie-Prophetstown 54, Mendota 24

106 – Hawkins (EP) won forfeit; 113 – Johnson (EP) pinned Thornton (M), 1:43; 120 – Church (EP) won forfeit; 126 – Wilkes (EP) won forfeit; 132 – Naftger (EP) pinned Christmann (M), 0:30; 138 – Jepson (EP) pinned Hermosillo (M), 2:02; 145 – Rosenow (EP) dec. Turner (M), 17-8; 152 – Bailey (M) pinned Thompson (EP), 1:23; 160 – Jace (EP) pinned Gagliardo (M), 0:56; 170 – Smith (EP) pinned Gilbert (M), 2:21;

See Wrestling, Page B2

Trojan box scores

NEWMAN 63, MENDOTA 43

Sterling Newman (63)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Batten	6	0-0	1	18
Padilla	3	0-3	3	8
Francque	0	0-0	1	0
Williams	2	0-0	1	5
Britt	2	0-0	5	4
McBride	0	1-2	0	1
Simpson	12	1-5	1	25
Jungerman	1	0-0	0	2
Totals	26	2-10	12	63

Mendota (43)

	FG	FT	Fls	TP
C. Strouss	0	0-0	3	0
Guzman	3	0-0	3	9
Romero	4	1-2	1	9
Nanez	1	1-2	2	4
R. Strouss	2	0-0	3	4
Stamberger	4	0-1	2	10
Baird	0	0-0	1	0
Aughenbaugh	0	1-2	2	1
Dewey	2	0-1	1	4
Koch	1	0-0	0	2
Totals	17	3-8	18	43

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Newman	13	25	41	63
Mendota	13	20	34	43
Three-point goals: Mendota - Guzman 3, Stamberger 2, Nanez 1; Newman - Batten 6, Padilla 2, Williams 1				

ROCK FALLS 71, MENDOTA 58

Rock Falls (71)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Tanton	0	2-3	4	2
Heald	5	6-6	1	19
Sandy	4	2-2	0	12
Marks	1	0-0	1	3
Goff	6	2-3	2	17
D. Hernandez	4	0-0	4	8
Bates	4	2-2	2	10
Totals	24	14-16	14	71

Mendota (58)

	FG	FT	Fls	TP
C. Strouss	1	0-0	4	2
Guzman	8	0-1	2	18
Romero	7	0-2	5	14
Nanez	6	0-3	4	15
R. Strouss	0	1-2	4	1
Stamberger	2	0-1	0	6
Baird	0	0-0	1	0
Aughenbaugh	1	0-0	1	2
Totals	25	1-9	21	58

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Rock Falls	12	28	46	71
Mendota	21	37	45	58
Three-point goals: Mendota - Guzman 2, Stamberger 2, Nanez 3; Rock Falls - Heald 3, Sandy 2, Marks 1, Goff 3				

OTTAWA 59, MENDOTA 32

Mendota (32)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Guzman	4	0-0	1	9
Romero	2	2-6	3	6
Stamberger	3	0-0	1	7
Nanez	1	0-0	0	3
R. Strouss	2	0-0	1	4
Baird	0	0-0	2	0
Dewey	0	0-0	1	0
Rocha	1	0-0	0	3
Totals	13	2-6	9	32

Ottawa (59)

	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Hart	4	0-0	0	8
Sheehan	3	1-2	1	8
Peterson	0	2-2	1	2
Mucci	0	0-0	1	0
Cooper	0	0-0	1	0
Goetz	2	0-0	0	5
Roether	3	0-0	0	6
P. Knoll	4	0-0	2	9
Henson	2	0-0	0	5
C. Knoll	7	0-2	0	16
Totals	25	3-6	6	59

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Mendota	5	9	23	32
Ottawa	15	33	40	59
Three-point goals: Mendota - Guzman 1, Stamberger 1, Nanez 1, Rocha 1; Ottawa - Sheehan 1, Goetz 1, P. Knoll 1, Henson 1, C. Knoll 2				

SPORTS

Wrestling

Continued from Page B1

182 – JP Belmonte (M) won forfeit; 195 – Lane (M) won forfeit; 220 – Harris (M) won forfeit; 285 – Chastain (EP) dec. Vallejo (M), 4-2

Monmouth-Roseville 57, Mendota 24

106 – Dillard (MR) won forfeit; 113 – Tiguan (MR) dec. Thornton (M), 16-0; 120 – Domingo (MR) won forfeit; 126 – Morales (MR) won forfeit; 132 – Stewart (M) pinned Cinzah (MR), 3:08; 138 – Hermosillo (M) won forfeit; 145 – Watson (M) pinned Sang (MR), 3:54; 152 – Mora (MR) pinned Bailey (M), 0:25; 160 – Raymond (MR) pinned Gilbert (M), 0:55; 170 – Martinez (MR) dec. Gagliardo (M), 11-10; 182 – Gandarilla (MR) pinned Belmonte (M), 2:45; 195 – Izquierdo (MR) won forfeit; 220 – Harris (M) pinned Vega (MR), 1:31; 285 – Bell (MR) pinned Vallejo (M), 1:25

The Trojans finished in 15th place out of 20 teams in the Kewanee Invitational on Jan. 14.

Harris took fourth place at 220 pounds and Watson was sixth in the 145-pound class.

Girls

Continued from Page B1

Mendota went scoreless in the first quarter while Rock Falls ran up 17 points. The count stood at 32-8 at the break.

“We have got to take care of the basketball, bottom line,” explained Hansen.

Karly Reel and Gracie Zinke scored five and four points, respectively, for the Lady Trojans. Wasmer and Reel grabbed four rebounds apiece, while Brant had four blocked shots.

MHS has a 4-17 record.

ROCK FALLS 55, MENDOTA 18

	FG	FT	Reb	TP
Jenner	0	1-4	0	1
Zinke	1	1-2	2	4
Wasmer	1	0-0	4	3
Brant	1	1-2	3	3
Reel	2	0-0	4	5
Garcia	1	0-0	1	2
Sondgeroth	0	0-0	2	0
Schultz	0	0-2	1	0
Totals	6	3-10	17	18

Rock Falls (55)

	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Lombardo	2	0-0	0	4
Howard	5	0-0	1	10
Sigel	1	0-0	2	2
Cid	1	0-0	1	2
Johnson	4	0-0	0	9
Teague	1	0-0	0	2
Witherow	0	1-2	1	1
Lego	4	2-2	3	10
Bickett	5	2-4	1	12
Thatcher	1	1-2	1	3
Totals	24	6-10	10	55

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Mendota	0	8	12	18
Rock Falls	17	32	50	55

Three-point goals: Mendota - Zinke 1, Wasmer 1, Reel 1; Rock Falls - Johnson 1

MHS Bowling

Jan. 9 (girls)

Mendota 2474, Streator 2180

Mendota scores: Lauren Holland 513 series; Isabelle Escatel 443 series; Brisa Nunez 422 series

Jan. 9 (boys)

Mendota 3209, St. Bede 2628

Mendota scores: Landon Bauer 711 series; Aiden Kent Tucker 597 series; Clay Buffington 520 series

LaMoille hoops

Jan. 10 @ Somonauk

Somonauk 65, LaMoille 36

Stats: Ian Sundberg 10 points, 8 rebounds; Eli Keighin 9 points

Jan. 11 vs. Lowpoint-Washburn
Lowpoint-Washburn 64, LaMoille 52

Stats: Tyler Billhorn 15 points, 11 rebounds; Logan Dober 11 points; Ian Sundberg 7 points, 10 rebounds; Josh Martin 7 rebounds

Jan. 13 vs. Serena

Serena 74, LaMoille 35

Stats: Billhorn 14 points, 6 rebounds; Ian Sundberg 9 points, 7 rebounds; Martin 6 rebounds; Brayden Klein 6 rebounds

Jan. 14 @ Midland

Midland 63, LaMoille 24

Stats: Dober 9 points; Billhorn 6 points, 7 rebounds; I. Sundberg 6 rebounds

Sophomore cagers claim two wins in three games

A monster fourth quarter propelled the Mendota sophomores to a 44-28 triumph over Sterling Newman in a Three Rivers Conference encounter on Jan. 10 at the MHS gym.

The Trojans managed just one point in the first quarter and found themselves down 8-1 heading to the second. Newman maintained its lead and took a 17-13 halftime advantage, and then the Comets stretched the margin to seven (26-19) entering the final frame. But the game took a dramatic turn in the fourth quarter when the Trojans ripped the net for 25 points while holding Newman to just a single bucket to win going away.

Aden Tillman and Domenic Richey led the attack with 12 points apiece, followed by Dane Doyle with 10 tallies and Braiden Freeman with seven.

Mendota and Rock Falls hooked up in a tight contest that went to the Trojans, 46-39, in sophomore boys' nonconference basketball action on Jan. 13 at the

MHS gym.

After trailing 16-14 at the end of one period, the Trojans held Rock Falls to seven points in the second quarter to take a 29-23 halftime lead. The visitors cut the deficit in half (34-31) heading to the fourth, before Mendota pulled away for the victory.

Tillman hit six of six free throws in the fourth frame and finished with 16 points. Doyle was next with 11 points, while Cam Kelly contributed 10 tallies.

Mendota's freshmen bested Rock Falls, 49-39. Ramiro Palacios paced the attack with 23 points, followed by Johan Cortez and Angel Orozco with nine markers apiece.

Offense was hard to come by for both teams in a 33-22 Ottawa victory over the Mendota sophomores in nonconference play on Jan. 14 at Ottawa.

Tillman topped Trojan scorers with eight points.

Mendota's overall record is 11-8.

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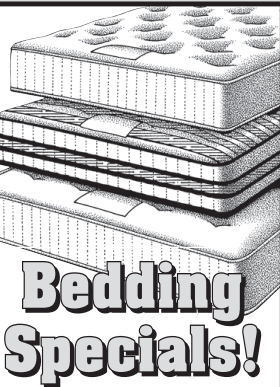


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Kirby Bond



James Bradley



Benjamin Bresley



Ashley Caracheo



Katelyn Cook



Ella Coss



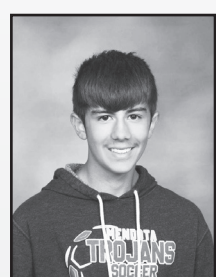
Sofia Duarte
Salinas



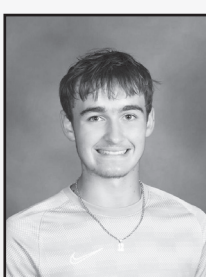
Ava Eddy



Gavin Elston



Cameron Escatel



Braiden Freeman



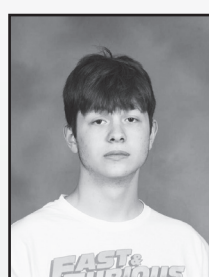
Ashley Garcia



Crystal Garcia



Cassandra
Gonzalez



Keith Grim



Claire Hanson



Joice Haun



Chloe Heath



Kayla Hernandez



Lidia Hernandez



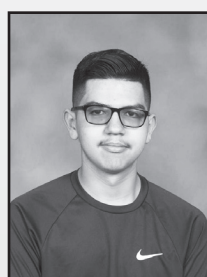
Lauren Holland



Quin Holland



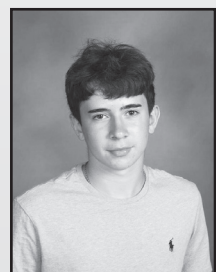
Kaleb Houle



Horacio Huizar



Andrianna
Karahalios



Cameron Kelly



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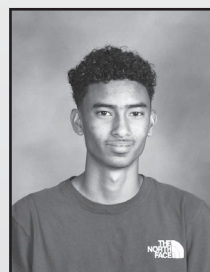
Cameron Kordick



Brandon Leadley



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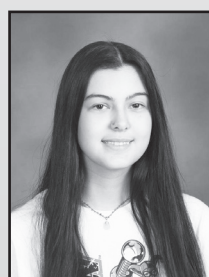
Travis Mumm



Shairy Negron



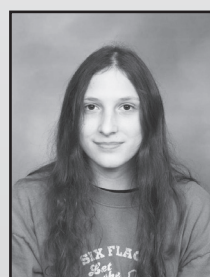
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Brenna Rummery



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Schultz



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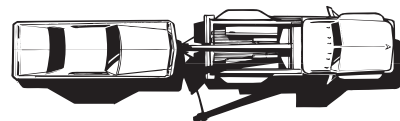
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LOCAL AND AREA

The folly of fickle feelings

There are some people in this world who are extremely reliable. You can count on them for just about anything and somehow, they'll always come through. However, I've found that many people are not very reliable.

Maybe you know someone who is a nice person, but if you ask them to do something, you're just not sure if they're going to follow through. In other words, they're unreliable.

I've discovered that feelings are a lot like unreliable people—we can't depend on them to

be what we want or need them to be all the time. Not only that, they aren't necessarily interested in what's best for us. And they always want to have their way.

Feelings get us excited about going shopping when we really don't have any money to spend. They entice us to eat cheesecake when we're trying to avoid extra calories and lead us to stay up late working or watching TV when we need to get up early the next day. Then after the damage is done, we have to deal with the consequences.

Our feelings are fickle—they change like the wind. Yet it's amazing how much we let them have their way in our lives. But as believers in Christ, we have something much better and more dependable to follow than our feelings—and that's the Word of God.

Conquering Confusion With the Truth

When we feel strongly about something in our heart, it's not always easy for us to determine whether or not we're really in agreement with God (see Jeremiah 17:9). Thankfully, God's Word doesn't leave us lost in confusion.

Hebrews 4:12 says that the Word of God is "sharper than any two-edged sword...exposing and judging the very thoughts and intentions of the heart" (AMP).

So, if we really want to rise above our feelings, we must let the Word of God be the final deciding factor in our decisions. There will be times when we can't find a verse for the specific issue we're dealing with. But we can always pray and ask God for wisdom (see James 1:5).

In the meantime, we need to trust Him, be patient and keep on praying. Remember that God is always available to help us live beyond our feelings and do what pleases Him.



Set Your Mind to Do What's Right

The first step toward managing our emotions is found in Colossians 3:2. It says, "Set your mind and keep focused habitually on the things above...not on things that are on the earth...."

There are many things in this world that could easily affect our minds and emotions—and we need to learn how to rise above them all. When negative thoughts are building up and trying to take control of your emotions, take a few minutes to set your mind on God and His Word.

It also helps to speak positively about whatever is bothering you. Here are a few examples to give you an idea of what I'm talking about: "My family may not be everything I'd like them to be, but I am thankful I have a family. My house is not as nice as I would like it to be, but it's still a nice place to live. I don't see how I'm going to get through this painful situation, but Jesus is with me and He will help me overcome it!"

How to Win a Spiritual Tug-of-War

Sometimes we want

to ask God to instantly change our circumstances when we're struggling. But the truth is until we learn to be content in every situation we face, we will continue to be tested.

Jeremiah 17:10 says, "I, the Lord, search and examine the mind, I test the heart, to give to each man according to his ways, according to the results of his deeds."

There are a few different "buttons" the devil knows he can push to get an emotional reaction out of me, so I make a point to prepare myself before that happens with the Word. I love Psalm 94:12-13. It says, "Blessed [with wisdom and prosperity] is the man whom You discipline and instruct, O Lord, and whom You teach from Your law, that You may grant him [power to calm himself and find] peace in the days of adversity...."

You see, the more we discipline ourselves to say no to our feelings and yes to the wisdom of God, the easier it becomes to defeat them in a spiritual tug-of-war. I want to encourage you to consistently take time to focus on what

the Bible says. It will empower you to control those unreliable emotions and do what is best for you!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching resource *Why Do I Feel the Way I Feel?* You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

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

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9:30 a.m. Worship

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Jan. 22 - 9 a.m. Sunday School;
9:30 a.m. Worship

Jan. 24 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Prayer walking;
6:30 p.m. Worship team

Jan. 25 - 10 a.m. Pastor Mary leads
Stonecroft worship; Newsletter deadline

ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.
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Pastor Jeff Brace

jbrace8459@gmail.com

Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United
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SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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during Sunday services)

TUESDAY - Prayer group 6 p.m.

FRIDAY - Youth group 6 p.m.



SPEND TIME WITH GOD

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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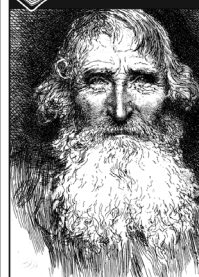
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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



O God, You have taught me from
my youth, and I still declare Your
wondrous deeds. And even when
I am old and gray, O God, do not
forsake me, until I declare Your
strength to this generation, your
power to all who are to come.

PSALM 71: 17, 18

Detail of "Bearded Man"
by Hubert von Herkomer (1849-1914)

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Jan. 22 - 10 a.m. Worship;

11 a.m. Fellowship

Jan. 24 - Newsletter deadline

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10:30 a.m. Worship at First

Jan. 20 - 9:30 a.m. Bible study

Jan. 22 - 9:40 a.m. Annual meeting
at Immanuel

Jan. 25 - 7 p.m. Confirmation class

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SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. From John 3, who asked "How
can a man be born who is old"?
Stephen, Nicodemus, Paul,
Thomas

3. What notoriously wicked
woman married King Ahab?
Candace, Shiprah, Adah, Jezebel

4. From Esther 5, who was the
wife of Haman of Persia? Naaman,
Zeresh, Not named, Delilah

5. Where were Adam and Eve
married? Heaven, Haran, Midian,
Eden

6. Who wrote the most of the
Psalms? Solomon, Moses, David,
Micah

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Nicodemus,
3) Jezebel, 4) Zeresh, 5) Eden, 6)
David

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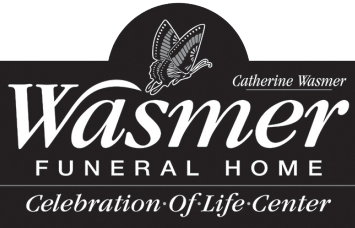
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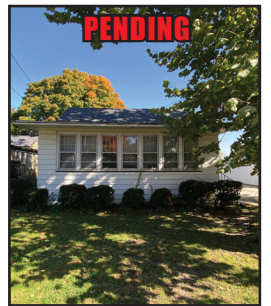
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