

## LaMoille School District, Arukah secure grant to help mental health of local schools

□ MHS among the participating schools

LaMOILLE – LaMoille School District 303 and Arukah Institute of Healing developed and submitted a grant in October to bring much-needed mental health support and services to seven local schools in Bureau and LaSalle counties. These participating schools include Bureau Valley High School, DePue School District 103, Hall High School, LaMoille School District 303, Mendota High School, Princeton High School and Ottawa High School. The grant, totaling \$6.86 million for five years, was awarded on Dec. 27, 2022.

LaMoille Interim Superintendent Jay K. McCracken stated, “We are deeply grateful to our school counselor, Katie Shevokas, and Dr. Scruggs and Dawn Conerton at Arukah for securing this amazing grant. Most importantly, hundreds of students in Bureau and La Salle counties will receive the social work/mental health services they desperately need. The funding will assist our seven participating school districts as they provide proactive help to our area youth. Our LaMoille Board of Education, administration, and staff are proud to serve a key role in this incredible grant program, and we express deep appreciation to Arukah and participating schools who made this dream a reality.”

Dr. Sarah Scruggs, Chief Executive Officer of Arukah remarked, “We are thrilled to partner with LaMoille and participating schools to secure this much-needed funding. Along with developing important collaborations and vital resources for students, my hope is that this increases community awareness of the struggles our kids face every day. Our Bureau and LaSalle County youth have markedly higher rates of poverty and chronic absenteeism relative to State of Illinois and National averages. Teens in our area also have higher alcohol and marijuana usage, suicide ideation, and prolonged feelings of extreme sadness. We saw these data as a cry for help, and we knew we needed to be involved.”

The Project Director will be Dawn Conerton from the Arukah Institute of Healing, and the School SEL Liaison will be Katie Shevokas from LaMoille School District. The purpose of this grant is to increase capacity of school-based mental health providers and increase access for youth (12-18 years) to timely and appropriate mental health intervention in participating schools. The grant begins in January 2023.

For more information, contact Dawn Conerton at dawn.conerton@arukahinstitute.org.

## Hard work pays off for MHS student

□ Carlos Olivas earns full-ride scholarship to the University of Chicago

By BRANDON LaCHANCE  
Staff writer

MENDOTA – When Carlos Olivas was thinking about his future after high school, the Mendota High School senior already knew what he wanted to pursue.

Instead of waiting for an education or career path to open itself to him, with the encouragement and support of his mother, he made sure he put in the hard work to clear the path himself.

“Ever since I was young, even as far back as 3- or 4-years old, my mother, Natasha Lemus, has always pushed me,” Olivas said. “She has told me, ‘College is the way of having a better life.’ We’ve always been low income, poor, and I’ve pushed myself. I try to view it as a mark of pride saying despite the disadvantages of being a low-income or poor student, I’m still able to excel.

“It’s something that I’m proud of. Everything that I’ve worked for through all of these years paid off. I’ve sacrificed a lot of my free time to work on my grades and now it’s all worth it. I had already planned to pursue computer science at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, but it’s a really selective program.

“I was going to go for one of the sister schools – University of Illinois Chicago or University of Illinois Springfield. It feels very rewarding to get a scholarship like this to go to college.”

Through many years of skipping hangouts with friends or walking past a video game controller to pick up a book, study, or work on a project, Olivas had developed an excellence

*“It’s something that I’m proud of. Everything that I’ve worked for through all of these years paid off. I’ve sacrificed a lot of my free time to work on my grades and now it’s all worth it.”* –Carlos Olivas

in academics.

The QuestBridge program and the University of Chicago recognized Olivas’ intelligence and desire to push through disadvantages for an education and rewarded him with the QuestBridge Match Scholarship, valued at over \$342,000, to study computer science.

“For the QuestBridge Match Scholarship, you have to apply to become a QuestBridge scholar, which you have to fill out paperwork – basically another FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – specifically for the QuestBridge program,” Olivas said. “If you’re selected, they push you out to become a QuestBridge finalist.

“The match scholarship, the one I was awarded, is for low income students that excel academically and are matched with schools that you rank on a form. You rank 15 schools and fill out applications individually for each school. You have 2 ½-3 weeks to fill out all of them. If you’re selected by one of those schools, that’s the school that will give you a scholarship.

“I was rejected by my



Carlos Olivas knew he wanted to study computer science in college after he graduates from Mendota High School this spring. He applied to QuestBridge for a scholarship to help. Olivas was accepted and now has a scholarship valued at over \$342,000 to attend the University of Chicago. (Photo contributed)

top five schools including Stanford University, Yale University, Brown University, Rice University, but I was accepted by my sixth choice, University of Chicago.”

Not only did Olivas put studying and schoolwork at the top of his priority list, he made sure staying involved in school activities was next on the list.

Over his four years, Ol-

ivas has been part of the Mendota High School band program, cross country, ILMEA (Illinois Music Education Association), track, scholastic bowl, and the tech support team.

Scott Siri, the MHS technology director, has worked with Olivas during the last

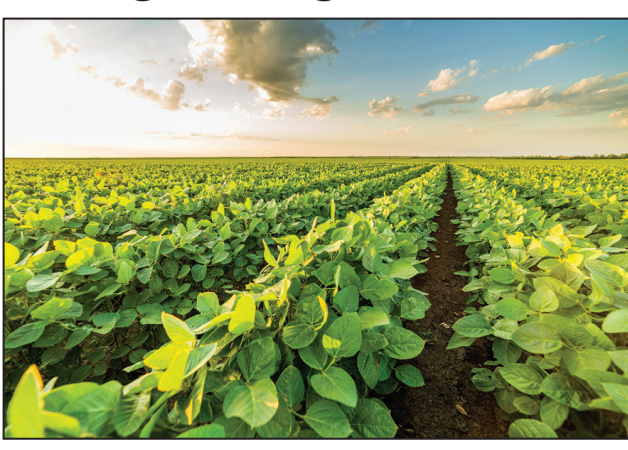
See Olivas, Page A5

## Illinois named top soybean producing state for the 2022 growing season

BLOOMINGTON – The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) is proud to announce that Illinois produced the most soybeans in the nation again in 2022.

After a slow start to the planting season due to cool and wet weather, followed by a hot and dry summer for many of the state’s farmers, the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates Illinois soybean farmers raised 677.25 million bushels on 10.75 million harvested acres with an average yield of 63 bushels per acre.

“I’m proud to be able to congratulate my 43,000 colleagues across the state on this announcement,”



said Steve Pitstick, a Maple Park farmer and Chairman of ISA. “Illinois soybean farmers have gotten really good at making the best of whatever growing challenges confront them, making smart management decisions, and maximizing

production opportunities, and 2022 was no different. We have proven once again that we know how to roll up our sleeves and put the sweat equity into producing

See Soybean, Page A5

## District 280 OKs calendar for 2023-24

MENDOTA – The Mendota High School District 280 Board of Education handled several items of business during its regular meeting on Jan. 17.

Principal Denise Aughenbaugh informed the board that as of Jan. 23, students, parents and teachers across Illinois have an opportunity to participate in the 10th annual statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of the school. Parents can share their thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about the school. The survey window for school year 2022-23 is from now until Friday, March 31.

Parents will be emailed their survey. Teachers will have time to complete their portion of the survey on Wednesday, Feb. 15. Student surveys are being organized and will be administered in February.

Two volunteer coaches/sponsors were approved by the board. Steve Gibertini will be a volunteer assistant coach for softball, as he has done for many years

prior, and Anna Weber will serve as a volunteer cheerleading coach.

Aughenbaugh shared several informational items with the board. National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society inductions will be conducted and presented on Monday, Feb. 6. The MHS Student Council will host a traditional Sadie’s Dance on Saturday, Feb. 11. The following day, Sunday, Feb. 12, the Symphony Concert will be held. There will be no school on Monday, Feb. 20 in observance President’s Day.

Superintendent Jeff Prusator presented the school calendar for the 2023-24 school year, which was approved by the board. The year will begin with a teacher institute on Monday, Aug. 14 and Tuesday, Aug. 15. The first day for students is Wednesday, Aug. 16. The Christmas holiday break is scheduled for Dec. 22 through Jan. 2 and spring break is planned for March 29 through April 7. The last day of school without any emergency days is set for Tuesday, May 21, 2024.



### Index

Local News .....	Pages A2,A3,A5,A7
Obituaries .....	Pages A4,A7
Opinion .....	Page A6
For the Home .....	Page A9
The Back Page .....	Page A10
Sports .....	Pages B1,B3
NIE Fun Page .....	Page B4
Entertainment .....	Page B5
Church Page .....	Page B7
Classifieds/Legals .....	Pages B8,B9



24/7 - We’re always on at [www.mendotareporter.com](http://www.mendotareporter.com)



NEWSPAPER



# LOCAL AND AREA

## Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

The students and staff are so excited at Blackstone that our new piece of playground equipment is installed. The students have been so excited and patiently waiting to play on it. We are so appreciative of the support that our families and community members provided through our fundraisers to purchase this new equipment. The students are loving this addition to our playground. Thank you!

The district's final fundraiser of the year kicked off on Friday, Jan. 13. For the second year, we will be selling Nothing Bundt Cakes. Each cake is \$6 and they are very delicious! Last year was our first time doing this fundraiser and we have made some changes for the pick-up process to make it go much smoother and be more efficient. All orders will be due on Friday, Feb. 3. Cakes will be delivered on Wednesday, Feb. 15. Blackstone School is raising money with this fundraiser to be able to

provide fun activities for our students at the end of the school year. Last year our students enjoyed a cookout picnic lunch, bounce houses and many other fun activities. We appreciate your support with the Nothing Bundt Cake fundraiser!

The students nominated for the principal award on Jan. 13 included Braxton Eames, Jayden Woods, Jonas Landeros, Gannon Stemmet, Elle Zinke, Paola Arteaga, Jace Ganther and Kale Smith. The winners were Alan Whitmore, Braxton Fisher, Eliana Garrett and Parker Watson.

The students nominated for the principal award on Jan. 20 were Adalyn Moss, Waylon Brewer, Jofiel Mandujano, Delayni Silva, Aisaiah Arteaga, Callie Martin, Ruben Calamaco and Hayden Wheeler. The winners were Frances Rupp, Grayson Kent, A'jada Perkins and Arianna Taperia. Congratulations to all of you!

## Dominican Sisters open Sacred Heart Convent for prayer Feb. 2

SPRINGFIELD – Those seeking an oasis for prayerful contemplation can find one at Sacred Heart Convent on Thursday, Feb. 2, when the Dominican Sisters open their luminescent chapel for the first Taizé-style prayer in over 10 years.

The hour-long service begins at 7 p.m. in the chapel at 1237 W. Monroe St. in Springfield. The facility is fully accessible and has plenty of free off-street parking.

"We are pleased to be able to share our chapel and our prayer once again after such a long time," said Sister Mila Diaz Solano, liaison from the leadership team of the Dominican Sisters for the 150th anniversary ad hoc committee.

Popular the world over, Taizé prayer is characterized by simple repetitive melodies, uncluttered by too many words, to open participants to the still voice of God within. This way of prayer is associated with an ecumenical monastery in Taizé, France, where generations of young people have been drawn to the monks' mission of prayer and reconciliation since its founding by 25-year-old Roger Schütz in 1940. Brother Roger's first mission was to welcome Jewish refugees from the war to his home near the demarcation line in France.

The sisters' event is one way they are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of their congregation in Jacksonville, when six Dominican sisters from a convent in Kentucky arrived there to teach the mostly-immigrant children of Irish railroad workers.

Feb. 2 is recognized globally as a day of prayer for consecrated life, when the Catholic Church acknowledges and celebrates the gift of vowed life to the church. The Dominican Sisters, like members of other religious communities, are consecrated to lives of celibacy, poverty, and obedience in the service of God's people and the Church.

For more information about the Feb. 2 prayer, call 217-787-0481 or visit [springfieldop.org/150years](http://springfieldop.org/150years).



The reredos behind the Sacred Heart Convent chapel altar includes a mosaic depicting Dominican saints and a crucifix with St. Dominic, the founder of the Order of Preachers on one side and St. Catherine of Siena, Dominican lay woman, mystic, and doctor of the church, on the other. (Photo contributed)

## Learn about Illinois storm chasers at Peru Library

PERU – Peru Library will be hosting a program about Illinois storm chasers on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Attendees will learn about severe weather, hear storm-chasing stories and find out how to prepare for a significant weather event from Nick Bartholomew, a seasoned storm chaser who has spent time in tornado alley documenting more than a dozen storms.

Registration is not required for this in-person program. For more information, call (815)223-0229 or email [perulibrary@perulibrary.org](mailto:perulibrary@perulibrary.org)

Peru Library is located at 1409 11th St., Peru.

## Tri County Financial Group named to 2023 OTCQX Best 50

MENDOTA – Tri County Financial Group (OTCQX: TYFG) is pleased to announce it has been named to the 2023 OTCQX® Best 50, a ranking of top performing companies traded on the OTCQX Best Market last year.

The OTCQX Best 50 is an annual ranking of the top 50 U.S. and international companies traded on the OTCQX market. The ranking is calculated based on an equal weighting of one-year total return and average daily dollar volume

growth in the previous calendar year. Companies in the 2023 OTCQX Best 50 were ranked based on their performance in 2022.

"Tri-County Financial Group is proud and honored to receive this recognition in a very challenging year," said Tim McConville, President/CEO of First State Bank. "It is a tribute to the amazing staff we have who are always putting the customer first."

For the complete 2023 OTCQX Best 50 ranking, visit [https://www.otcmarkets.com/files/2023\\_OTCQX\\_Best\\_50.pdf](https://www.otcmarkets.com/files/2023_OTCQX_Best_50.pdf).

The OTCQX Best Market offers transparent and efficient trading of established, investor-focused U.S. and global companies. To qualify for the OTCQX market, companies must meet high financial standards, follow best practice corporate governance, and demonstrate compliance with applicable securities laws.

About Tri County Financial Group  
Tri County Financial Group is the holding company for First State Bank, a \$1.5 billion community bank headquartered in Mendota. First State Bank is spread throughout north central Illinois in 19 locations. Established in 1940, First State Bank has experienced excellent growth, both organically and through acquisition, particularly over the last 25 years. This has been obtained by providing cutting edge banking products along with excellent customer service.

More information regarding First State Bank can be found at [firststatebank.biz](http://firststatebank.biz).

We know you're busy.  
We know you're on the road.  
We know you'll love  
our eEdition.

eEdition

Now FREE to  
all current  
subscribers!

- Same great content
- Searchable, portable, convenient
- Back issues available
- Identical in format to paper edition—  
Flip each page with a single click!
- News when you want it—  
eEdition is available sooner than home delivery!

**E-mail [jgriffith@mendotareporter.com](mailto:jgriffith@mendotareporter.com) or call 815-539-9396 for your password today. You can also register online by visiting our website.**

P.O. Box 300, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342 • [www.mendotareporter.com](http://www.mendotareporter.com)

The Time Is Here...

Start 2023 Off with a

BANG!

As we enter 2023, we'd like to share our thanks and best wishes to all of our current and new subscribers. We've really enjoyed being your trusted source for local community news, and look forward to the next 12 months and bringing you countless reasons to celebrate!

23% OFF

A FULL YEAR  
SUBSCRIPTION

\$43 in County | \$58 out of County!\*\*

OFFER ENDS TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2023

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Payment Enclosed ☐

Bill My Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Cannot combine offers.  
Cannot apply to previous payments.  
Payments must be postmarked  
by January 25, 2023.

Call, mail or  
drop off your payment at:  
**The Mendota Reporter**  
703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342  
PO Box 300  
815-539-9396

\*\*Regular price \$56 in county | \$76 out of county



# LOCAL AND AREA

## Stage 212 brings “Steel Magnolias” to the Illinois Valley

LaSALLE – Stage 212 brings warmth to the Illinois Valley winter with their production of “Steel Magnolias,” Robert Harling’s hilarious, yet touching and insightful examination of the human experience.

“Steel Magnolias” will be presented Feb. 3-5 and Feb. 10-12 at Stage 212, 700 First St., LaSalle. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. except Sunday matinees, which begin at 2 p.m. Angel passholders and season passholders may begin reserving seats now.

Tickets will be available to the general public for \$15 each beginning Jan. 23, and may be purchased by visiting the box office Monday 4-6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon or by calling 815-224-3025 during the same hours. Tickets may also be purchased online by visiting stage212.org.

At Truvy’s beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana, the outspoken Truvy and her young and eager assistant, Annelle cater regularly to many ladies in the neighborhood, including

wealthy former first lady of Chinquapin Clairee Belcher, local curmudgeon Ouiser Boudreaux, intelligent and compassionate career woman M’Lynn, and her daughter Shelby, the prettiest girl in town. Their strong bond reveals itself in the way these ladies celebrate each other’s good times but are there to help each other through bad times as well.

Featured in the cast are April Ruiz as Truvy, Samantha Farb as Annelle, Kathy Hepner as Clairee, Paige Ellerbrock as Shel-

by, Michelle Hainline as M’Lynn and Natalie Smigel as Ouiser.

Production staff includes director Joey Santos, producer Scot Smigel, assistant director Doug Bartelt, set builders Scot Smigel and Dominic Passini, set designers and decorators Joey Santos and Matthew Valle, lighting designer Sarah Breyn and light operator Dominic Passini.

“Steel Magnolias” is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

## Free preschool screenings held at First United Methodist Church by L.E.A.S.E in Mendota Feb. 14

MENDOTA – L.E.A.S.E. will be holding free preschool screenings at First United Methodist Church, 100 E. Sixth St., Mendota, on Tuesday, Feb. 14, in the afternoon.

The screenings are for children who are 3 or 4 years old. L.E.A.S.E. will screen key developmental areas such as motor development, speech, language, vision, hearing and general readiness.

It is requested that only one parent/caregiver bring the child to the appointment. An appointment can be made by calling Jean at 815-433-6433.

## Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum offers new way to enjoy historic artifacts

SPRINGFIELD – Crawl around under Abraham Lincoln’s desk. Spin the chair where Adlai Stevenson III sat in the U.S. Senate. Look down the barrel of Tad Lincoln’s model cannon. Thanks to new 3-D images from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, anyone anywhere in the world can explore treasures from Illinois history like never before.

The virtual gallery features about 100 artifacts that can be enlarged, turned upside down or spun around. Each comes with details about the item’s history and significance.

“Every museum visitor has seen some fascinating artifact they would like to pick up and examine more closely. These 3D images offer the next-best thing,” said Christina Shutt, executive director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. “They let all of us satisfy our curiosity by peering into the nooks and crannies of history.”

The images can be found at [www.PresidentLincoln.Illinois.gov/3D](http://www.PresidentLincoln.Illinois.gov/3D).

The 3-D scanning was made possible by grant funds the ALPLM received as part of the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief. The U.S. Department of Education awarded grants to governors for the purpose of providing local educational agencies, institutions of higher education and other education-related entities with emergency

assistance during the coronavirus pandemic.

“Nothing connects us to the past quite like artifacts. They add concrete details as we imagine Abraham Lincoln writing a speech, a soldier risking everything in war, or a lonely boy playing in the White House,” said Lisa Horsley, the ALPLM’s director of library services. “We’re excited to give people around the world a chance to explore these historic treasures.”

The 3-D gallery includes many objects that were part of the Taper Collection, a huge collection of Lincoln material that was housed at the ALPLM for many years. The collection’s owners have removed the items, but digital versions remain available through the ALPLM for anyone who wants to study them.

Highlights of the virtual gallery include:

- The desk where Lincoln wrote much of the speech he would deliver after being sworn in as president
- A bust of Lincoln that was a gift to the Lincolns from the sculptor
- Tools that thieves used in a failed attempt to steal Lincoln’s body from his tomb in Springfield
- A bust of Frank “Free Frank” McWorter, first Black man to plat and register a town in America
- A medal of honor awarded posthumously to Andrew Jackson Smith, a Black man serving in the



### Civil War

• Campaign items from the presidential bids of Adlai Stevenson II.

The mission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum is to inspire civic engagement through the diverse lens of Illinois history and sharing with the world the life and legacy of Abraham Lincoln. We pursue this mission through a

combination of rigorous scholarship and high-tech showmanship built on the bedrock of the ALPLM’s unparalleled collection of historical materials – some 13 million items from all eras of Illinois history.

For more information, visit [www.PresidentLincoln.Illinois.gov](http://www.PresidentLincoln.Illinois.gov) or follow the ALPLM on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

## Have a show ready for the stage? Stage 212 is seeking submissions

LaSALLE – Stage 212 in LaSalle is currently seeking submissions from directors for the 2024 season. The organization is looking for a wide variety of well-known, highly recognizable musicals, dramas and comedies to fill the winter, spring, summer and fall slots, but will also entertain proposals for both the 2023 and 2024 “Off-Season” productions, which are typically small cast, a little out of the ordinary, and run in a slot outside of the regular season. The organization will consider all submissions, including repeats of past shows if they have not been performed in the last 15 years.

Anyone interested in submitting a show for consideration should visit

the Stage 212 web site at [stage212.org](http://stage212.org) for application information. Visitors to [stage212.org](http://stage212.org) will find a reference list of all productions Stage 212 has put on in their history, as well as a director’s resume and application to be completed and submitted online. Applications are due by Feb. 13, 2023. A final selection will be made for recommendation to the Management Committee of Stage 212 in March of 2023. Any questions should be emailed to [businessmanager@stage212.org](mailto:businessmanager@stage212.org).

Stage 212 has been the Illinois Valley’s community theater since 1968 and welcomes anyone interested in participating in a stage production, regardless of previous experience.

## Starved Rock area to host eagle watch weekend Jan. 28-29

OTTAWA – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, is hosting an eagle watch event Jan. 28-29. The event is held in partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Raptor Center, Starved Rock Foundation, Starved Rock Audubon and Starved Rock Lodge. Activities will be held at the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center at Starved Rock Lock and Dam as well as the Starved Rock State Park Visitor Center and Starved Rock Lodge.

Throughout the weekend a variety of family-friendly events will be available

including outdoor eagle watching, indoor birds of prey presentations, Native American dancing and drumming demonstrations, guided hikes and more.

Events will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day and are free to attend. Seating is limited and will be available on a first come, first served basis. For more information and a detailed schedule of specific events visit: <https://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Illinois-Waterway/Eagle-Watching/> or contact the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center at 815-667-4054.

### Your Tax Specialists

Trust your taxes to our experienced professionals & make sure you are receiving all of the deductions you’re entitled to by the latest tax law changes.

**Accepting New Clients**

**Call Or Email Today For An Appointment**

**Bill Schwabenland, CPA**  
**Anita LaShonse** - [anita@chris-eller.com](mailto:anita@chris-eller.com)  
 Erin McIntyre, CPA  
 Barb Meloy, Accountant  
 815-539-3437

**801 Jefferson St.**  
**Mendota, IL**  
**815-539-3437**

**CHRIS ELLER**  
 THE RETIREMENT SPECIALISTS

### Complete Your Dream Bathroom

Create the bathroom that is perfect for you - Personalized to your style & budget! - Call Grasser's Today !!

**GRASSER'S**  
 PLUMBING & HEATING INC

404 W. Main St., McNabb, IL  
[grassersplumbingheating.com](http://grassersplumbingheating.com)  
 815.882.2111

### MASS ANNUAL MEETING/ VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Mendota Area Senior Services (MASS) will hold its annual meeting and Volunteer Recognition party on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, in the Feik Senior Parlor of the Mendota Civic Center. The meeting begins at 12 noon with a luncheon to honor all volunteers for 2022. Anyone interested in MASS services is welcome to attend the annual meeting.

If you are a volunteer and are planning to attend the luncheon, please call MASS to make reservations. The annual meeting will take place immediately after lunch. Reports will be provided on the past year’s services, nominations and election of Board Members will be held, and volunteers for 2022 will be recognized.

The MASS 2022 Volunteer of the Year will also be announced.

For more information, or to sign-up call the MASS office at 539-9673 or 539-7700.

### TONY’S TREE SERVICE

- Tree Trimming
- Tree Removal
- Gutter Cleaning
- Bush & Shrub Trimming
- Stump Grinding

**815-503-9273**

**Wishing Everyone a Happy New Year!**

**Snow Removal**

Driveways Only — Commercial & Residential

• Fully insured •

### Smooth Smokes Vape Shop

Tobacco and More

We carry loose tobacco and flavored tobacco for hookahs, cigarettes, cigars, water pipes, e-cigs, vaporizers and e-juices.

**Smooth Smokes & Vapor**

**1001 Main St. Mendota**  
**815-539-3499**  
**Mon. - Sat. 8AM-8PM, Sun. 9AM-7PM**

**WARNING: THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS NICOTINE. NICOTINE IS AN ADDICTIVE CHEMICAL.**

### Personalize your price today

Call, click or stop by for a home & auto

**State Farm**

**Kurt Bruno**  
 Agent

1103 Main Street  
 Mendota, IL 61342-1668

Bus: 815-539-3878  
 Fax: 815-538-5878  
[www.kurtbruno.com](http://www.kurtbruno.com)

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL  
 State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX  
 State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL







# LOCAL AND AREA

## Olivas

Continued from Page A1

few school years and has seen Olivas' character, determination, and intellect in action.

"His technical skills are great. He is a special kid even besides his technical skills. He has a technical mind, but on top of that, he is patient with people when a lot of teenagers wouldn't be that patient," said Siri, who has his tech support team help him with repairs and special projects including fixing Chromebooks. "Carlos is inclusive of other kids in ways that other teenagers wouldn't be. He has a social tenderness where he understands there are nuances about things where other teenagers are very self-focused."

Siri added Olivas pays attention to all details.

If there is something wrong with a machine or another part would be a better fit to make a machine work better, Olivas will figure out the solution.

"We have a long-term drone project and he was one of my initial kids that were on the ground floor of the drone," Siri said. "He helped put together some of the basics. He has less time to work on it now that he is

a senior and is involved in other stuff, but he was in on the ground floor.

"He picked out parts and made sure what we already had was compatible with what we were ordering. He did a lot of the piecing together."

It makes sense Olivas wants to study computer science.

The future specification for a degree major at the University of Chicago became a thought because Olivas heard computer science was a good degree and there would always be job openings.

Then it became a hobby, a passion, and something he wants to do; not just because he could pay the bills.

Plus, it'll make his mother proud.

"My mother always supported me. She always told me, 'You can do anything you want' or 'You got this' or 'Don't quit,'" said Olivas, who's ultimate goal is to be a software designer. "She would get mad if I ever had bad grades, but she always expected me to get A's and I expected that of myself as well.

"Having that reinforcement left a positive impact on me."

## Soybean

Continued from Page A1

a high-quality product and raising a record-breaking crop."

Pitstick says ISA's three-pronged approach to supporting a thriving soybean industry—agronomy, domestic and global market development, and local, state and national government relations—are the key ingredients when it comes to the recipe for raising a record soybean crop.

"ISA remains committed to helping farmers improve return on investment (ROI) by providing tools such as sharing the latest innovations, technology, and research that boosts profitability," said Pitstick. "We are proud to provide year-round, actionable agronomic advice and insights that focus on improving soybean productivity and quality."

The ISA checkoff program funds IL Soy Advisor as a go-to toolbox for expert agronomic and management advice, including renewed efforts in funding research and conservation agronomy programming to help farmers be more successful on their soybean acres.

IL Soy Advisor and the expansion of the ISA agronomy team provide the latest educational resources, agronomic insights, webinars, success stories, events, and

more for soybean farmers to maximize their operation year-round. To learn more about upcoming IL Soy Advisor events near you or to read the latest in agronomic advice, visit [www.ilsoyadvisor.com](http://www.ilsoyadvisor.com).

"This announcement is more than a newsworthy headline; it represents the lineage, hard work, and contributions of 43,000 farmers," said Pitstick. "This celebration belongs to every soy grower - and every soy family - across Illinois. Congratulations on a job well done!"

*(The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) checkoff and membership programs represent more than 43,000 soybean farmers in Illinois. The checkoff funds market development and utilization efforts while the membership program supports the government relations interests of Illinois soybean farmers at the local, state, and national level, through the Illinois Soybean Growers (ISG). ISA upholds the interests of Illinois soybean producers through promotion, advocacy, and education with the vision of becoming a market leader in sustainable soybean production and profitability. For more information, visit the website [www.ilsoy.org](http://www.ilsoy.org) and [www.ilsoygrowers.com](http://www.ilsoygrowers.com).)*

## IVCC offering water, wastewater classes via Zoom

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Continuing Education Center is offering four water and wastewater classes this spring to help individuals prepare for specific exams or to meet required Renewable Training Hours.

Classes offered live, via Zoom include:

- Beginning Drinking Water Class C and D starting Feb. 6;
- Advanced Drinking Water Class A and B starting Jan. 31;
- Beginning Wastewater Class 3 and 4 starting Feb. 7; and
- Advanced Wastewater Class 1 and 2 starting Feb. 9.

Participants must meet specific experience, education, and examination requirements to qualify for certification. Upon completion of the course, participants schedule their own exam.

To register, go to [www.ivcc.edu/waterclasses](http://www.ivcc.edu/waterclasses). For information, contact Business Training Specialist Jennifer Sowers at [jennifer.sowers@ivcc.edu](mailto:jennifer.sowers@ivcc.edu) or (815) 224-0280.

## EDUCATION BRIEFS

### Mendotan on Belmont U. Dean's List

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Belmont University has announced the list of students recognized on the Dean's List for the Fall 2022 semester. Of the approximately 52 percent of Belmont's 7,100 undergraduate students who qualified for the Fall 2022 Dean's List, Faith Anderson of Mendota was listed.

Dean's List eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Located two miles from downtown Nashville, Belmont University comprises nearly 9,000 students from every state and 33 countries. Nationally ranked and consistently recognized by U.S. News & World Report for innovation in higher education, the University offers more than 115 areas of undergraduate study, 41 master's programs and five doctoral degrees. With a focus on whole person formation and data-informed social innovation, Belmont is committed to forming diverse leaders of character equipped to solve the world's complex problems. For more information, visit [www.belmont.edu](http://www.belmont.edu).

### Iowa State gives fall 2022 Dean's List

AMES, Iowa – More than 10,200 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the fall semester 2022 Dean's List.

Among the students achieving the honor is Sean Dullard of Mendota, a senior animal science major.

Students named to the Dean's List must have earned a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

### Area students on Kish Dean's List

MALTA – The Office of Student Services at Kishwaukee College has announced the students named to the Fall 2022 Dean's List. To be eligible for Dean's List honors, a student must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours (at the 100/200 level) during an academic term at Kishwaukee College with a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

The following Kishwaukee College students have been named to the official Fall 2022 Dean's List:

Calvin Seier of Amboy, Gage Faber of Compton and David Negrete of Paw Paw.

### Kish lists part-time Honor's List students

MALTA – Kishwaukee College has announced its Part-Time Student Honors List for Fall 2022. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have completed a minimum of 6 (but less than 12) semester hours of college-level courses at Kish with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

The following students have been named to the Kishwaukee College Fall 2022 Part-Time Student Honors List:

Angel Monarrez of Earlville, and Dawson Brooks, Reagan Gibson and Natalie Hollenback, all of Paw Paw.

### IVCC names Academic Honors students

OGLESBY – For the fall 2022 semester, 507 students were named to the Academic Honors list at Illinois Valley Community College.

Students who have earned a grade point average of 3.25 to 3.74 in six or more semester hours, listed by hometown are:

Amboy – Jensen Lewis; Compton – Bradyn Chandler, Hailey Clark; Earlville – Brandon Bruce, Khloe Cantlin, Emily Harness, Morgan Myre, Hannah Pfaff, Tai Sheehan, Avery Stroh; La Moille – McKenna Klein, Wyatt Lundquist, Jason Martin, Raven McSherry, Collette Motter, Morgan Sadnick; Leland – Brooklyn Guelde;

Mendota – Edgar Arteaga, Keina Arteaga, William Bentley, Melaina Bierwirth, Shelby Boege, Daisy Contreras, Miriam Diaz, Alyssa Engels, Geraldo Escatel, Isabelle Escatel, Mauricio Escatel, Marisol Felix, Sean Figueroa, Alexis Finley, Zoe Finley, Kendra Frey, Joral Ganther, Julian Godina, Walter Hall, Zoe Hanson, Elaina Harris, Chloe Hillyard, Grace Jackson, Katlyn Jenner, Devin Johnson, Yulissa Juarez, Karliann Miars, Jeremy Morey, Bryce Northcutt, Alayna Nosalik, Allison Olczak, Amaya Olivas, Carlos Olivas, Lizbeth Quintana, Abel Rodriguez, Theran Schmitt, Emma Schultz, Mileigh Schultz, Emily Stewart, Tyler Valdez, Madelyn Van Horn, Janet Varela;

Ohio – Anna McDonald; Sublette – Karli Althaus; Troy Grove – Rylee Ponder.

### IVCC gives Presidential Honors list

OGLESBY – For the fall 2022 semester, 185 students were named to the Presidential Honors list at Illinois Valley Community College.

Students who have earned a grade point average of 3.75 to 4.0 in 12 or more semester hours, listed by hometown are:

Earlville – Elizabeth Browder, Elisabeth Farrell, Emma Kamin, Liam McGann; La Moille – Maddison Gentry; Mendota – Briana Avila, Logan Brandner, Isabella Caruso, Salma Gonzalez, Phalen Hessenberger, Sophia Holland, Deborah Lengsfeld, Izabella Nanez, Natalie Orozco, Rosevelia Rocha, Celeste Serrano, Allison Stewart, Alexandra Stremlau; Ohio – Rachel Rieker; Van Orin – Leah Williams; West Brooklyn – Jacob Swope.

### M. Mikolasek on Iowa president's list

IOWA CITY, Iowa – Madison Mikolasek of Mendota was among the more than 800 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa named to the president's list for the 2022 fall semester.

Mikolasek is a second-year student in Iowa's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and is majoring in Human Physiology.

President's list status was earned by only two first-year undergraduates during the 2022 fall semester at Iowa; only 133 second-year students; only 270 third-year students; and only 405 fourth-year students.

The president's list was established in the fall of 1983 to recognize academic excellence.

University of Iowa undergraduates who achieve a grade point average (GPA; 4.0 is an A) of 4.0 in 12 semester hours or more of UI graded coursework and who have no "I" marks (incompletes) or "O" marks (no grade reported) on their records for two consecutive semesters (excluding summer session) are recognized by inclusion on the president's list.

### Local students make Iowa Dean's List

IOWA CITY, Iowa – More than 7,500 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa were named to the dean's list for the 2022 fall semester. Dean's list status was earned by only 2,427 first-year undergraduates during the 2022 fall semester at Iowa, only 1,768 second-year students, only 1,503 third-year students, and only 1,845 fourth-year students.

Among the students achieving the honor are Katherine Anderson of La Moille, a fourth-year student majoring in English and Creative Writing, and Madison Mikolasek of Mendota, a second-year student majoring in Human Physiology.



**Stay Warm this Winter!**

*American Standard*  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

**GRASSER'S**  
PLUMBING & HEATING INC  
815-882-2111

404 W. Main St., McNabb, IL • [www.grassersplumbingheating.com](http://www.grassersplumbingheating.com)

## DIRECTORY

**Main St. Station**  
Bar & Grill

714 Main St.  
Mendota  
815-539-7011

Carry-out & curbside pick-up always available.

**Friday, Jan. 23rd**  
Bacon Wrapped Shrimp

**Saturday, Jan. 24th**  
Cookout Night -  
Steaks, Chops, Homemade Salad Bar

**Join us for Sunday Funday!**  
Bar open at noon - serving lunch  
Live Music with Greenfield Station  
at 2 pm...Don't Miss Out!

**Now taking Valentine's Day Reservations!**

Visit our Website or Facebook for daily lunch & dinner specials.  
[www.mainstreetstationbar-grill.com](http://www.mainstreetstationbar-grill.com)



**Baby Bragger**


**TRACE LOUIS ALLEN**  
August 8, 2022

Parents  
**JARED AND KAYLA ALLEN**

Grandparents  
**JAY AND LINDA ALLEN**



# OPINION



**The Mendota Reporter**

Award-winning Newspaper IPA/NINA Ill. Press Assoc./No. Ill. Newspaper Assoc.

Tonja Greenfield, Publisher  
Kip Cheek, Managing Editor  
Brandon LaChance, News Reporter  
Jennifer Robinson, Office Manager  
Jamie Stanford, Account Executive

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

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

## Sheriffs should enforce laws

By Scott Reeder

“We don’t make the laws we just enforce them.”

Such statements have become nearly a cliché in police departments across the nation. But the statement is not always true.

Some laws are enforced more readily than others.

And over the years more than a few sheriffs have issued press releases saying they won’t enforce one particular law or another.

For example, Bexar County, Texas, Sheriff Javier Salazar announced June 25, after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the Roe v. Wade decision, which established a woman’s right to abortion, that he would not enforce a Texas law restricting abortion.

“Shame on the Supreme Court and the bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., and Austin who are attempting to impose their own supposed morals on others,” Salazar, whose jurisdiction includes San Antonio, wrote in the post. “They will not use my badge or the color of my office to do so.”

Not surprisingly, his statement was criticized by Texas conservatives and praised by progressives. Should a cop just ignore a law because he just doesn’t like it?

That question is being asked in Sangamon County where Sheriff Jack Campbell has announced he will not enforce an assault weapon ban recently passed by the Illinois General Assembly and signed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker.

Campbell, who said he believes the bill violates the Second Amendment, joined the vast majority of Illinois county sheriffs who have said they will not comply with the act.

“I believe this is not just my moral duty, but my constitutional duty to defend the citizens’ right to keep and bear arms,” he told Illinois Times.

The Protect Illinois Communities Act, signed into law by Gov. JB Pritzker on Jan 10, immediately bans the sale and purchase of a list of semi-automatic firearms and gives owners of those weapons until Jan. 1, 2024, to report their serial numbers with the Illinois State Police.

“At this point, I don’t see any part of it that I am comfortable with because all it does is begin to encroach on our Second Amendment rights,” he said. “If we don’t say, ‘no’ now, we might find ourselves living in a country we really don’t want to live in.”

It should surprise no one that it is sheriffs that are making public pronouncements about not enforcing controversial laws. After all, they are politicians wearing uniforms.

But is it appropriate for law enforcement agencies to refuse to enforce laws they don’t like?

Well, to a certain extent, they have always done that.

When I was a newspaper reporter in Las Vegas, Nevada was the only state where possession of any amount of marijuana was a felony.

At the time, I asked two cop friends how they went about enforcing the state’s Draconian pot law. One a University of Nevada Las Vegas police officer said when she smelled marijuana while patrolling the dorms, she simply ignored it. Another, a constable in Clark County, Nev., said when he found marijuana while serving eviction orders, he’d simply flush it down the toilet but not make any arrests.

Neither believed pursuing felony charges against the scofflaws was a good use of law enforcement resources. Then again, the Nevada Legislature—duly elected by the people—said this was criminal behavior. Should these cops have turned a blind eye on felonious behavior?

Is it their place to pick and choose what laws to enforce? Most civics books would say “no.”

When sheriffs announce they won’t enforce a particular law they are committing an ethical transgression, said Robert Wadman, a former police chief of Aurora, Ill., and Omaha, Neb., and a professor emeritus at Weber State University.

Here is the rub, the Bexar County sheriff said he wouldn’t enforce abortion restrictions after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled such laws were constitutional. The Nevada cops I knew cast a blind eye toward marijuana laws that while lousy public policy did pass constitutional muster.

Campbell and more than 70 other Illinois sheriffs say they won’t enforce the law before its constitutionality has been considered by a single judge. Could the new law be ruled unconstitutional? Yes. But it’s far from a certainty, says Eric Ruben, a law professor at Southern Methodist University, who specializes in the Second Amendment.

“It sends a message to citizens that they don’t have to follow the law. And it sets sheriffs up as the people who decide whether a law is constitutional – and that’s not their role. In a way, it would have been more honest to say they weren’t going to enforce the law because they didn’t agree with it. But they are weighing on its constitutionality and that’s not their job.”

The right to bear arms, like any right, isn’t an absolute. Ultimately, whether the law is constitutional will be decided by the courts.

With the current makeup of the U.S. Supreme Court, it is unclear whether the assault weapon ban will pass constitutional muster, he said.

“I think there are at least three justices who would vote to strike it down – but I’m not sure if there are five,” he said

In the meantime, it would be best if sheriffs just enforced the law rather than opine on its constitutionality.

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



## Opening Mendota Lutheran Home – 1952

*(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Jan. 23, 2002.)*

**By Jessica Nashold**

Fifty years ago, on Jan. 17, 1952 Lutheran ladies were preparing the old Harris Hospital for its new life as Mendota Lutheran Home. Women from congregations in Mendota, Compton and West Brooklyn were pictured on the front page of The Mendota Reporter with mops and scrub pails, addressing the task. The date of Feb. 3, 1952, had been set for the “key ceremony” and open house for the new facility. Planning was in the hands of a committee headed by Mrs. Adolph Rave and composed of the Rev. J.T. Meyer of Clarion, Mrs. John Walter, Mrs. John Carnahan of Compton and Henry Sauer.

On dedication Sunday, Dr. A.W. Englebrecht conducted a service at St. John’s, after which all proceeded to the Home, where the dedication took place, on the steps of the former Harris Hospital. An open house followed and first residents were admitted soon after Feb. 3.

\*\*\*

Mendota Community Hospital had accepted the last patients in the Harris Hospital in June 1951. In January 1952, The Reporter published weekly reports on activities there. A hand rail had been installed along the temporary boardwalk leading to the entrance, a great convenience for visitors. An emergency bell at the ambulance entrance brought medical assistance quickly. Ed Lorack was commended for sending snowplows from his Chevrolet dealership to clear drives for service vehicles, ambulances and visitors’ cars.

It was reported that a \$2,000 bequest from Don P. Bowers who had died in December at the age of 102, would be put to good use in his memory. Mendota’s oldest resident had visited the hospital during the open house held in conjunction with its dedication the preceding summer.

\*\*\*

Christ T. Troupis announced the opening of his law office on Jan. 7, 1952. It was located at 710 ½ Washington St., above the Mendota Candy Kitchen (later

**Backtracks & Sidetracks**

Kitch Inn).

\*\*\*

The annual meeting of the Coon, Rod and Gun Club was held in the KC rooms, Jan. 10, 1952. Directors elected that evening were Milton Dewey, Norman Willard, Guy Prescott, Kenneth Sauerssig, Arthur Krenz, John Herbert, Delmar Kaiser, Marvin Schlesinger, Ben Waller, Adolph Rave, Dean Mosher and Raymond Sondgeroth. By-laws were adopted that night, adjusting lengths of terms so that all directors would not, in the future, be elected at the same time.

Sam Carney, chief inspector of State Law Enforcement, told the members that 500 arrests, made in November 1951, had yielded \$13,000 in fines. There had been late shooting, road shooting, shooting of waterfowl out of season, shooting in excess of limit. But, surprisingly, 40 percent of the fines were collected from hunters and trappers who had failed to obtain licenses.

**175 attended the meeting.**

\*\*\*

Showing at the State Theatre, Jan. 16-17, 1952 – Cary Grant and Jeanne Crane in, “People Will Talk.”

**A wonderful story about a doctor and his patients.**

\*\*\*

Square dancing was in vogue in 1952. On Jan. 16, the Ophir PTA sponsored a square dance in the Community Hall in Triumph.

**Music – Deming’s Orchestra Caller – Ray Leach.**

\*\*\*

Carlos Parsons offered his Talk-O-The-Town Café for sale.

**Most equipment is less than a year old.**

\*\*\*

Prescott Brothers advertised a permanent job for a man qualified to operate gear alignment equipment. Some special

schooling would be required for which Prescott would pay.

\*\*\*

Reporter editor Dick Leiser received a letter from George Halas, expressing appreciation of the “Stick With the Bears” Club in Mendota. He especially noted that Bears fans from Mendota had attended a Bears-Cardinals game in sub-zero temperature. Even though the Bears lost –

**We hope for better in 1952.**

\*\*\*

K.W. Pohl added Bob Stafford to the staff at his insurance agency. He said Stafford had spent 16 years in insurance, the previous 6 ½ as specialized agent for Hartford Fire Insurance in this area.

\*\*\*

Mendota Poultry Co. took over Gower Produce Co., located at 707 Sixth St., in January 1952. Art Kaufman was manager.

\*\*\*

Five journalism students on the Hi-Lite staff at MHS handled a broadcast over WLPO radio, Jan. 8, 1952, at 3:15 p.m. They gave high school news and a skit entitled, “Little Town.” Taking the microphone were Dorilee Rider, Orrie Spenader, Elaine Jewell, Bill Prescott and Dick Leiser (Reporter editor’s son).

**Journalism instructor Moogk accompanied the group.**

\*\*\*

A two-way police radio was installed in a Mendota squad car. It was provided by the sheriff’s office to facilitate communication between city and county officers.

\*\*\*

The Mendota Chapter of American Cancer Society undertook a survey of smoking habits. Mrs. Dave Reese was in charge in interviewing smokers with the objective of determining whether or not a link existed between smoking and lung cancer.

\*\*\*

Mayor Glenn Momeny issued a Proclamation declaring the week of Jan. 24-31, 1952 –

**National Veterans of Foreign Wars Week**

## No, you can’t believe ‘The Science’

**By Rich Lowry**

Copernicus surely had no idea when he got the Scientific Revolution underway in the 16th century that an unintended effect would be empowering agenda-driven bullies and fanatics.

Of course, science is a pillar of modern life for which we should be deeply grateful. It has given us longer and healthier lives, incredible material abundance, and abilities that were unfathomable a few generations ago.

It is “science” -- science used as a rhetorical tactic and ideological weapon -- that is a blight on 21st-century American life.

This faux science is not dispassionate but fired by a great moral certainty. It is not open to counter arguments and different interpretations but insists on only one answer to complicated or ambiguous questions. It is not rigorously neutral but aims to achieve cherished political goals.

The debate over gas stoves illustrates perfectly the faux scientific method.

First, researchers conduct flawed studies reaching alarming conclusions. Second, the media generates headlines about the findings that don’t note the methodological inadequacies. Third, advocates agitate for changes to public policy based on what has magically become “the science.”

A new study, for instance, concluded that a suspiciously precise 12.7% of childhood asthma cases are attributable to gas stoves.

The study relied on findings from other papers that, as economist Emily Oster points out, arrived at widely divergent outcomes, didn’t account for other factors in households using gas stoves that might contribute to respiratory problems, and sometimes produced results that weren’t even internally consistent.

All of this would have counseled caution that was notably missing in the media coverage. A headline in The Washington Post read, “Gas stove pollution causes 12.7% of childhood asthma, study finds.” Yahoo News: “Gas stoves have given 650,000 U.S. children asthma, study finds.” And so on.

Yes, the headlines include the caveat of “study finds,” but the phrase brings with it the presumed authority of scientific

rigor and detachment.

It is similar to the phrase “scientists say” so often used in stories about climate change and its potential harms.

A report in The Washington Post on the gas stove controversy was a classic in this genre. It related, “Scientists say the world needs to rapidly transition away from fossil fuels, including replacing gas appliances with cleaner versions that emit no pollution, such as electric and induction cooktops.” And then added, “Scientists say a growing body of research shows that gas stoves pose a threat to the planet and public health.”

That’s a lot of sayin’ by a mass of mostly unidentified scientists.

A more strictly accurate phrase in stories like this would be “some scientists contend,” and a less tendentious formulation would be “some scientists say, but others aren’t so sure.” This would ruin the point, though, which is to imply that research -- and facts and rationality -- all point one way.

If it can be asserted that “science” has arrived at a conclusion -- that gas stoves are a major health hazard, that climate change is responsible for extreme weather, that young kids must wear masks during the pandemic -- then any dissenters or doubters can be marginalized for not “believing the science.”

This means that they aren’t just wrong or misguided, but dangerous and contemptible. As such, they can be belittled, intimidated, or even -- as we’ve seen in the debate over COVID-19 policy -- actively suppressed.

It’s hard to imagine an enterprise less in keeping with the scientific spirit. The motto of the Royal Society, the storied British academy of sciences, is nullius in verba, or “Take nobody’s word for it.” As the Society’s website explains, “It is an expression of the determination of Fellows to withstand the domination of authority and to verify all statements by an appeal to facts determined by experiment.”

For today’s self-styled champions of so-called science, that sentiment badly misses the mark. Why bother with the facts as carefully and rigorously established over time, when you can misuse the authority of science to try to dominate instead?

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

(c) 2023 by King Features Synd., Inc.



# LOCAL AND AREA

## Rep. Fritts sworn in; makes history

SPRINGFIELD—Newly sworn in State Representative Brad Fritts (R-Dixon) made history on Jan. 11 as the youngest elected official sworn into the General Assembly in its over 200-year history.

**Fritts**

"Illinois is an amazing place to grow up, but too many young Illinoisans are leaving for greener pastures out of state because they don't see a future here for themselves," Rep. Fritts said. "I welcome the opportunity to work for the people of my district to address their needs in a way that inspires everyone about the future of this great state."

The 118 members of the Illinois House of Representatives took the oath of office at the University of Illinois in Springfield before family, friends, and supporters. Rep. Fritts, a farmer and part-time substitute teacher, was among more than a dozen other freshmen sworn into office for the first time.

"I am honored to serve my community and it's important to me that the people of my district understand that my job first and foremost is to represent them down here and at home," Rep. Fritts continued. "My office is open to everyone and I encourage constituents to contact me for help with state issues and to discuss their thoughts on legislation. I'm excited to get to work and be their advocate."

The newly drawn 74th District looks different than what residents are likely used to. The district changed significantly because of mandatory redistricting following the 2020 census. It now consists of the portions of DeKalb, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside counties and is intersected by Interstates 88 and 39. The district includes the communities of Dixon, Mendota, Rochelle, and Sterling, as well as many others.

Representative Fritts will be opening a new office, centrally located in the district, at 101 W. First St., Suite 501, Dixon. Find more information about the Representative and the new district at his new website, [www.RepFritts.com](http://www.RepFritts.com).

## OBITUARIES

### Velma Faber

MENDOTA—Velma Faber, 95, of Mendota, passed on to Heaven on Jan. 23, 2023 at Heritage Health, Mendota.

Her time on earth will be remembered and celebrated at the Merritt Funeral Home on Friday, Jan. 27, 2023, one month prior to her 96th birthday, from 4-7 p.m. A funeral service will be held at LaMoille Community United Methodist Church on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at 73 N. Main St., LaMoille.

She was born, a twilight sleep baby at Angier Hospital in Sublette on Feb. 24, 1927, the only child of Ed and Olga (Weitzel) Wolf.

Velma is survived by her children, Diane McConville (Russ Parloski) of Munhall, Pa., Curt (Nancy) Faber of Mendota, Dan Faber of Flanagan, Randy (Kathy) Faber of Sublette, Allen Faber of Paw Paw, Donna (Dennis) Wallace of Rockford and Pat (Duane) Chaon of Mendota. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Chad McConville, Amy (Randy) Nunes, Ann (Dan) Schick, Doug (Kathryn Muck) Faber, Brad (Catherine) Faber, Jesse (Mary) Faber, Nicole Faber, Spencer (Stacy) Wallace, McKenzie (Jim Jancsura) Wallace, Kelsey Chaon, Trevor (Erin) Chaon and Travis Chaon, as well as 12 great-grandchildren. She will also be remembered by her in-laws Fred, Aleta and Beverly Faber, many cousins and a multitude of nieces, nephews and step-grandchildren.

She has been greeted in Heaven by her parents and her husband Warren, whom she missed dearly. Also waiting for her are Gilbert (Viola) Grosch, who she considered her brother, two daughters-in-law, Julie Faber and Melody Faber, in-laws Willard and Marjorie Faber, Lola and Leonard Zimmerlein, Carol Hansen, Calvin Faber, two nieces, two nephews and many cousins.

She was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul Lutheran Church on the Old Chicago Road. She lived the majority of her life on the original Wolf homestead in Sublette township, Lee county.

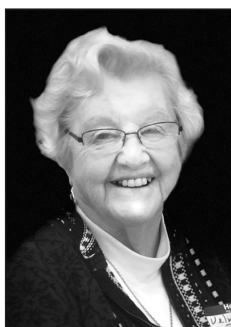
Her primary education was done in a one-room schoolhouse prior to graduating from Amboy High School in 1946. Following high school, she attended Illinois State University until she was beckoned home to care of her ailing mother. It was during this time that she met a young soldier, recently home from World War II, and her future path was established.

Velma and Warren Faber were married Nov. 28, 1948 in the Wolf home, and their 50 years of love and adventures began. Eleven months later their first child arrived followed by six others during their first 10 years of marriage. Their family, challenges and her biggest joy had begun.

Velma never worked outside the home, but she worked plenty. She had not only cared for her mother, but also her father as well as her seven children. She always kept a large garden, surrounded by flowers. Late summer always included canning, freezing and making pickles. Christmas always included days of baking cookies. She was an active member of LaMoille Community United Methodist Church. Over many years she was a 4-H leader, a member of Lee County Home Extension, Navy Mothers, VFW Auxiliary, Lee County Republicans, Country Squares and her church circle.

The family would like to thank Stonecroft Retirement Village for their loving care for over 15 years, as well as Heritage Health who cared for her to the end of her journey. Many thanks to Dr. Mary Chinn and staff who lovingly cared for her for many years.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to LaMoille Community United Methodist Church, her longtime faith community that she loved or a donation to the family, to support the St. Paul Cemetery where many of her family members are buried. Online condolences may be left at [www.merrittfh.com](http://www.merrittfh.com).



Students Rob Matthews, left, and Maximilian Walker examine a prototype they created in IVCC's CAD lab last spring. The 'Bermuda Bucket,' a portable drink holder, was designed for sale in the 2022 MIMIC (Making Industry Meaningful in College) Fair. (Photo contributed)

## IVCC schedules beginning CAD course online starting Feb. 6th

OGLESBY—Illinois Valley Community College is offering a beginning Computer Aided Drafting/Design course online as part of the late-start slate of courses opening Monday, Feb. 6.

"Students with CAD skills are needed in countless local industries," said program coordinator Dorene Data. "CAD technicians or 'detailers' are in high demand."

CAD technicians help designers and engineers visualize a product before it is fabricated.

The course, Computer Aided Drafting I AutoCAD (CAD 1200-101), provides access to a leading software in the engineering and drafting industry.

"AutoCAD is an integral tool in several industries, including architectural, civil and mechanical engineering," Data said.

The course's online format will involve Data leading live sessions and video instruction.

CAD 1200 is one of four courses in the CAD certificate that can be added to other classes and result in two 'stackable' certificates. Along with general education classes, the certificates can lead to an Associate in Applied Science degree.

Register in-person in Records (CTC 101), call (815) 224-0447 or visit [www.ivcc.edu](http://www.ivcc.edu) and select "Register Now" on the right side of the page.

## Community Calendar

### FEBRUARY 2023

**FEB. 1**  
SMALL FRIES "LOVE!"  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
4 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142

Audience: 3 years - Kindergarten.  
Please call to register and no library card required.

**FEB. 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23 & 27**  
EXERCISES  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
8 AM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 2 & 16**  
HEARING CLINIC  
Sponsored by Civic Center & M.A.S.S.  
9:30 AM - 1 PM  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700  
May call Kelly @ Sterling Hearing at 815-626-3220. Hearing aid batteries available at MASS office.

**FEB. 2, 9, 16 & 23**  
POKENO  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
12 PM  
Feik Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 2, 9, 16 & 23**  
QUILT & CRAFT CLUB  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700  
Bring your craft items and join the others.

**FEB. 2**  
LEGO CLUB  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
4 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Audience: 1-8th grade. Please call to register and no library card required.

**FEB. 2**  
SHAKE RATTLE & READ "VALENTINE"  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Audience: Birth - 2 yrs old (siblings welcome). Please call to register and no library card required.

**FEB. 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27**  
BINGOCIZE  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
10 AM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700  
Special activity which combines bingo & exercises, instructed by Laurie Moore.

**FEB. 3, 10, 17 & 24**  
BINGO  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 6, 13, 20 & 27**  
DOMINOES  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 7, 14, 21 & 28**  
WII BOWLING  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
10:30 AM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 7, 14, 21 & 28**  
EUCHRE  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
12 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
Pay \$3 at beginning of play. Cash prizes paid out at end of play.  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 7**  
SPRING MINI BOOKS  
Sponsored by Grave-Hume Public Library  
1 PM & 6 PM  
1401 W. Main St., Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Create colorful mini books using Jenga blocks. We'll paint them first with spring colors and add unique touches to make them your style! All of the supplies will be provided. Adults only. Please register.

**FEB. 7**  
PICTIONARY  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 8**  
SHAKE RATTLE & READ "VALENTINE"  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
11 AM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Audience: Birth - 2 yrs old (siblings welcome). Please call to register and no library card required.

**FEB. 14 & 28**  
BLOOD PRESSURE & BLOOD SUGAR CHECKS  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
11 AM - 12 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 14**  
LEFT, RIGHT, CENTER  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 16**  
SHAKE RATTLE & READ "POLAR BEARS"  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Audience: Birth - 2 yrs old (siblings welcome). Please call to register and no library card required.

**FEB. 21**  
MARDI GRAS PARTY  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
12 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700  
Join us for food, games, snacks and fun. Enjoy the day with us. King, Queen, Duke & Dutchess will be chosen.

**FEB. 21**  
3RD TUESDAY BOOK CLUB  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
1 PM & 6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Reading: "100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared"

**FEB. 22**  
SHAKE RATTLE & READ "POLAR BEARS"  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
11 AM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Audience: Birth - 2 yrs old (siblings welcome). \*Repeat of Feb. 16 program. Please call to register and no library card required.

**FEB. 22**  
MOVIES WITH M.A.S.S.: "BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S"  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library & M.A.S.S.  
3 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142  
Snacks provided by M.A.S.S.

**FEB. 24**  
POTLUCK  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
12 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700  
Please bring dish to pass and your place setting.

**FEB. 27**  
TWEENS "IRON CHEF" LIBRARY EDITION  
Sponsored by Grave-Hume Public Library  
4 PM  
Grave-Hume Public Library  
For more info call (815) 538-5142

Grades 5-8. Each group of chefs will be given a bag of ingredients to cook up something delicious. Pizza and refreshments served at 5 PM provided by Mendota Rosati's. Please call to register. No library card required.

**FEB. 28**  
YAHTZEE  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

**FEB. 28**  
COOKING FOR A HEALTHY HEART VIA ZOOM  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S./University of IL  
2:30 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call (815) 539-7700

May watch Zoom presentation at home, contact us for the link necessary to view. Will also provide at M.A.S.S. to watch here.

**FEB. 28**  
AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH MOVIE: "LYLE, LYLE CROCODILE" PG  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
4 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call (815) 538-5142

All youth ages are invited. Children 6 and under are required to have an adult present. Please call to register and no library card required

*The Community Calendar Is Brought To You By*  
**Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce & The Mendota Reporter.**  
*These are some of the local businesses who belong to your Chamber of Commerce:*

Schimmer GM  
Senator Sue Rezin  
Sew Quiltable LLC  
Specialty Body & Paint, Inc  
Sports-N-Stuff, Inc  
Starved Rock Country Community Foundation  
Starved Rock Media  
Starved Rock Wood Products  
Stephenitch Do It Best Hardware



# ADULT COLORING CONTEST



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

All adults aged 55 and older are invited to color this scene shown here and submit to The Mendota Reporter for a chance to win a prize. Entries must be received at our office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, by Feb. 8, 2023. Winners will be notified.

Prizes awarded for:  
1st Place & 2nd Place  
Must be 55 or older to enter

Thanks to these sponsors for making this  
Adult Coloring Contest possible:

Cornerstone Dentures  
Mendota • 815-910-3160

David Kaleel  
806 Jefferson St. • Mendota  
815-535-5616

Sports-N-Stuff  
804 Washington St. • Mendota  
815-539-6354

Mendota Area YMCA  
1811 S. 13th Ave • Mendota  
815-539-9346

Financial Plus Credit  
Union  
1905 13th Ave. • Mendota  
815-539-3444  
Member NCUA-ESI

City of Mendota  
800 Washington St. • Mendota  
815-539-7459

First State Bank  
of Van Orin  
200 N Main St. • 815-638-2111  
Member FDIC

Malden Banking Center  
302 W. Main St. • 815-643-2121  
Member FDIC

Mendota Area  
Senior Services  
1901 Tom Merwin Drive  
Mendota  
815-539-7700





# FOR THE HOME



## 4 benefits of enclosing your porch or patio

(BPT) - Love your porch or deck and wish you could enjoy it all year long (but with fewer bugs and less time spent fighting the elements)?

Enclosing an existing porch or patio is the perfect way to add year-round functionality, value and space for what matters most to you. And doing so is more affordable than you might think, costing a fraction of what a new addition to your home would and adding just as much to its value.

If you're looking for the best way to enclose your patio, whether with screens or glass, the decision comes with a long list of benefits. The four most rewarding aspects of enclosing your porch or patio have more to do with what goes on inside your home already with the people and pastimes that mean most to you.

### 1. Room for more of what matters.

From holiday celebrations and other family gatherings to staycations and mental retreats, this space is ideal for resting, recharging and making memories - regardless of weather. Here, you can immerse yourself in nature year-round (grab a beverage or cozy throw and enjoy!), do more of what you love or create your own family fun space by adding a hot tub, bar or pool table. Your enclosed patio can serve as a guest room, entertaining space, a place to unwind or even a staycation destination when you need some time "away."

### 2. More functional everyday living space.

Enclosing a porch, deck or other seasonal

outdoor area is also the perfect way to expand your functional indoor space. Glass and screens create a great sunlit environment that can be enjoyed as a dining room, family room or kids' playroom. Plus, the longevity of costly furniture and décor will be extended since they'll be protected from the elements year-round.

### 3. A boost in your home's value.

Enclosing this outdoor space adds more functional square footage to your property and increases its value. Speaking of value, it's also more affordable and noninvasive than a home renovation or building project, meaning your life can continue as usual, free from contractors and their construction equipment taking over your house. Win-win. Focus on boosting your own mental health and well-being by using it as a yoga or workout room or home office space.

### 4. Lots of natural light and a closer connection to nature.

A patio enclosure is ideal for embracing indoor-outdoor living. It helps bridge the gap between the feeling of being outside while still enjoying the comforts of being in, with lots of light and fresh air, but no bugs, inclement weather, yard debris, dust or pollen - does it get better than that? If you're in need of the perfect spot for enjoying your morning coffee, crafting, napping or sunbathing with your pets, this is it.

Gaining valuable space to do more of the things you enjoy with the people you love transforms how you think about and use your home's interior.

## 4 steps to prep your room for clean paint lines

(StatePoint) A home painting project can be overwhelming, especially if you're a beginner. However, if you do the right prep work, the painting process doesn't have to be so intimidating. By following these steps, you'll set yourself up for clean paint lines and amazing results, no matter your skill level.

### 1. Purchase Proper Supplies.

Before the prep work can even begin, it's vital to purchase the proper supplies. Create your list by considering the steps you'll take to complete your project: cleaning the wall surface, taping off edges and then, of course, applying paint. As you shop, remember that affordability doesn't have to mean sacrificing quality tools.

Use new sandpaper and sponges so the surface is smooth and clean to start. Fresh brushes and rollers will lead to professional-looking results, and a high-quality, cost-effective painter's tape will help with achieving

clean paint lines.

Despite what many DIYers believe, using a primer is a necessary step, and shouldn't be considered optional. Primer acts as a barrier and prevents old paint from showing through, so it really can make all the difference. In most cases, you'll only need one coat of new paint if the surface is properly primed. Once you've chosen your primer, don't forget the paint! Select the color and finish you prefer; then, purchase a sample and paint a small area to ensure it meets your expectations.

### 2. Declutter the Space.

Once you've grabbed your supplies and decided on the paint color and finish, remove as much out of the room as possible to avoid any damage during painting. Small, easy-to-move furniture should be temporarily relocated to another space. Heavy, hard-to-move furniture can at least be pushed away from the wall and protected with covers.

Switch plate covers, window treatments and light fixtures can be removed and stored until your paint has dried.

### 3. Make the Surface Smooth and Clean.

For the perfect smooth finish, start by lightly sanding your walls to eliminate any existing imperfections. This will likely cause dust and debris to fall throughout the room, so vacuum and wipe down walls after you're finished sanding, as the paint will apply more evenly if the surface is clean. The walls can be wiped with a sponge and a mixture of dish soap and warm water.

### 4. Tape and Protect.

The final step to prepare your room for paint is to tape the walls and protect the floors and any other areas you want to keep paint-free. When applying painter's tape, keep the pieces one to two feet in length for the easiest application and securest seal. For an extra-tight hold, use a tool such as a putty knife to smooth down the edges and help prevent paint bleed. As for the floor, cover the surface with an old sheet or protective film to catch any paint drips or spills, taping down the edges if needed to make sure no paint leaks through the edges.

## How to make homes more appealing to modern buyers

Home trends come and go. Today's must-have items tend to become tomorrow's outdated features in the blink of an eye.

Homeowners who plan to stay in their current homes for years to come needn't prioritize modern trends over personal preferences. However, homeowners looking to sell their homes can consider these favored features to increase their properties' appeal to modern buyers.

• **Separate laundry room:** According to the National Association of Home Builders' 2021 What Home Buyers Really Want report, a separate room dedicated to laundry was the most desired feature among prospective home buyers. Though it might not inspire the awe of an outdoor living room or floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking a wooded backyard, a laundry room fills a direct and universal need. Perhaps that's why 87 percent of buyers want a room dedicated to laundry in a home.

• **Exterior lighting:** Drive through a modern suburban neighborhood at night and it won't take long before you realize the popularity of exterior lighting. And that's no coincidence, as homeowners everywhere appear to embrace exterior lighting. The NAHB report indicates that exterior lighting is the most sought-after outdoor feature. The good news for prospective sellers is that exterior lighting is an inexpensive and instant way to transform a property at night. Some solar-powered lighting along walkways and outside the front door can make a home feel safer, while some uplighting of large trees in the backyard can produce a sight to behold once the sun goes down.

• **Energy-efficient upgrades:** Inflation has driven up the cost of just about everything over the last year-plus, and energy is no exception. So it should come as no surprise that 83 percent of prospective home buyers are looking for energy-efficient

windows and appliances in a home. These features save money and benefit the planet, making them a win-win among buyers.

• **Patio:** Patio spaces have long been popular, but that popularity reached new heights during the pandemic. When forced to stay at home for long periods of time, millions of people longed for ways to spend more time outdoors without breaking lockdown rules. Patios provide outdoor living spaces, and 82 percent of buyers indicated they wanted a patio with their next property.

• **Side-by-side sink:** A double or side-by-side sink is among the more affordable features buyers are looking for. At less than \$1,000 on average, a side-by-sink is an affordable way to make a home more appealing to modern buyers.

Modern buyers want a lot out of their homes, and sellers can do their best to meet those desires while getting the most money for their properties.



# FIRST STATE BANK



# PROUD TO BE YOUR COMMUNITY BANK!

firststatebank.biz | 800.362.9623

Member  
**FDIC**

## LEAVE THE CLEANING TO US!





**\$25 OFF YOUR FIRST CLEANING**

CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN HOME ESTIMATE TODAY:

**815.228.5273**

WWW.IVCLEANTEAM.COM

# SITK

## kitchen & bath

Let's imagine together!



somekitchen.com

815.879.0604

1619 N Main  
Princeton, IL

01162019

## BUILD IT ONCE - BUILD IT RIGHT



FIREPLACES



DECKING & FLOORING



INTERIOR DOORS



BATHROOMS



EXTERIOR DOORS



CABINETRY & COUNTERTOPS



WINDOWS



STONE, SIDING & ROOFING



KITCHENS



ILLINOIS' longest operating lumberyard continues to thrive along Peru's historic riverfront. Maze Lumber has been providing top quality building materials to Illinois Valley contractors and homeowners for 175 years, still owned by the founding fathers (Maze).

Located in a 15,000-square foot showroom and office, we offer building materials for the modern home as well as a full line of the traditional lumber items used in home building, commercial construction, and industrial applications. Our experienced sales staff takes pride in their ability to provide knowledgeable assistance along with prompt delivery at reasonable prices.



mazelumber.com  
Water Street, Peru | 815-223-1742





# THE BACK PAGE

## POLICE BLOTTER

**DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED**  
Julio A. Monreal, 36, of 700 Meadowview Drive, Apt. 9, Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Jefferson Street and Michigan Avenue at 5:39 p.m. Jan. 21. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

**DOMESTIC BATTERY**  
Victor Escamilla, 37, of 815 Washington St., Apt. 2, Mendota, was charged with domestic battery after police officers investigated the report of a domestic disturbance in the 800 block of Washington Street at 7:33 p.m. Jan. 21. The subject was transported to the LaSalle County jail.

**DOMESTIC BATTERY**  
Alyssa R. King, 23, of 407 Fifth Ave., Mendota, was charged with domestic battery after police officers investigated the report of a domestic disturbance in the 600 block of Main Street at 7:33 p.m. Jan. 21. The subject was transported to the LaSalle County jail.

**WARRANT ARREST**  
Dionna J. Buchanan, 32, of 815 Washington St., Apt. 8, Mendota, was arrested at 7:41 p.m. Jan. 21 on a valid LaSalle County warrant for

failure to appear/obstructing identification. The subject was unable to post bond and was transported to the LaSalle County jail.

**WARRANT ARREST**  
Kareena L. Harrison, 26, of 10th Avenue, Mendota, was arrested at 2:05 a.m. Jan. 22 on a valid LaSalle County warrant for failure to appear/retail theft. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

**TWO CHARGES**  
Richard C. Melcher, 60, of Menomonee Falls, Wis., was charged with duty upon damaging other property and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident after the Mendota Police Department investigated a hit and run accident near the intersection of West Main Street and East Main Street at 9:50 p.m. Jan. 22. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

**DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED**  
Aurora S. Hodge, 27, of 904 13th Ave., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Seventh Street and Fifth Avenue at 11:46 p.m. Jan. 22. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

## IVCC offering numerous late-start classes beginning Feb. 6 & March 14

OGLESBY – A slate of over 25 late-start and second 8-week Illinois Valley Community College courses begin Feb. 6 and March 14 respectively, including online science, health, math, English, computer and welding classes. Principles of Management (MGT 1002-102 online) with Bob Reese begins Monday, Jan. 23. Online, 12-week classes starting Monday, Feb. 6 include Weather and Climate (GEG 1001-101) with Jeff Fesperman; College Algebra (MTH 1003-101) with David Garrison; General Elementary Statistics (MTH 1008-101) with Dawn Chambers; Human Growth and Development (ALH 1002-102) with Samantha Whiteaker; Computer Aided Drafting I AutoCAD (CAD 1200-101) with Dorene Data; Introduction to Business Computers (CSI 1002-101) with Christian Jauch; English Lab (ENG 0909-101) with Jean Forst; English Composition I (ENG 1001-103) with Kirk Lockwood; English Composition II (ENG 1002-103); and Fundamentals of Speech (SPH 1001-102) with Cory Tomasson. Online second 8-week classes beginning Tuesday, March 14 are Wellness (HPE 1000-103) and Personal and Community Health (HPE 1003-102) with Tony Ruda; Advanced Keyboarding/Document Formatting (CSP 1231-100); Health, Safety, and Nutrition (ECE 1005-101); Educational Technology (EDC 1203-150, blended); General Psychology (PSY 1000-102); and Elementary Spanish II (SPN 1002-150, blended). Course sections numbered 100-149 are online; 150 sections are blended learning, offered in the classroom and online. Numerous day and evening welding courses (WLD) are offered in the second 8-weeks. For welding information, contact Dean of Workforce Development Shane Lange at shane\_lange@ivcc.edu or (815) 224-0219. Students new to online

learning need to take Orientation to Distance Learning (CSP-0002-103) first. English Composition I and General Elementary Statistics require assessment; contact counseling at (815) 224-0360. To register, call (815) 224-0447 or stop in Admissions.



Students Keina Arteaga, left, and Rosy Rocha of Mendota discuss IVCC's late start classes with Maddison Gentry of the admissions office. (Photo contributed)

**Sunday & Wednesday Special:** 1/4 Fried Chicken with coleslaw and French fries **\$8**

**Monday & Wednesday:** \$5 margaritas!  
**Tuesday:** Taco Night!

**BANQUET ROOM AVAILABLE**  
Perfect for parties, weddings, birthdays or any gathering.

**We do catering for all occasions!**  
Call or stop by for all the details.

**EL ZARAPE**  
MEXICAN RESTAURANT  
Reservations Accepted

**Rt. 251 • Mendota**  
**(815) 539-5985**  
Open 6 Days A Week  
Sun-Wed. 11am-8pm  
Friday & Sat. 11 am-9pm  
Joe & Ana Arteaga

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS Seamless Roofing INC.**

**815-539-5142**  
northernillinoiseseamlessroofing.com

**Leak-Proof... Guaranteed!**  
705 Illinois Ave.  
Mendota, IL 61342

**DURO-LAST**  
THE WORLD'S BEST ROOF®  
Authorized Contractor. NRCA • BBB

**INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT OR NEED A TOW?**

**GIBSON TOWING & RECOVERY**

EMERGENCY ROADSIDE SERVICE  
TOWING & RECOVERY  
JUMP STARTS  
TIRE CHANGES  
FUEL DELIVERY

**24h**

**WE BUY JUNK CARS**

**815-651-9436 • GIBSONTOW@GMAIL.COM • GIBSONTOW.COM**

**PRICE REDUCED!**

Priced well below appraised value. Includes a 1 year home warranty plan. Lovely 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath home with lovely natural woodwork, spacious yard, 1+ car garage, lovely enclosed porch, great location & more!

**#11679058**  
**\$124,900**

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
TODAY'S REALTORS®, LLC

Call Bonnie Lester @ 815-228-7565

Live life to the **FULLEST.**



### Complete Orthopedic Care for all Ages

Live life to the fullest and get back to the life you enjoy with XCEL Orthopedics at Rochelle Community Hospital. Dr. Gadini Delisca leads our expert team to provide complete care and customized solutions for patients of all ages.

#### Full range of orthopedic solutions including:

- Knee, hip, and shoulder replacement procedures
- Fracture care—splinting and casting
- Arthritis and carpal tunnel solutions
- Sports medicine
- Hand, foot and ankle injury treatments



Rochelle Community Hospital

To learn more about XCEL Orthopedics or schedule an appointment with Dr. Delisca, call **815-561-2774** or visit [rochellehospital.com/orthopedics](http://rochellehospital.com/orthopedics).

**ORZECH**

**Auto Truck And Tow LLC**  
Compton Illinois

**Compton, IL • 815-343-8047**

- 24/7 Light/Medium Duty Towing & Recovery
- Mobile Auto Truck Repair
- Emergency Roadside Assistance
- Jump Starts
- Fuel Delivery
- Flat Tire Changes
- Lock Out Service
- Secure Impound Yard

**WANTED!**  
CLASSIC CARS .... TOP \$\$\$\$

Mercedes, Porsche, Jaguar, Corvettes, Vintage Cars, Foreign & Domestic, Restored & Unrestored, Hot Rods, Mopars & Vintage Motorcycles  
Call Jim at 630-201-8122



# SPORTS



Kewanee defender Catrelle Reed gets a hand on the basketball as Mendota's Jace Baird goes up for a shot on Jan. 20 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

## MHS sophs best Bureau Valley, lose pair

Mendota's sophomore boys' basketball team was in control from the opening tip in cruising past Bureau Valley, 57-16, in a Three Rivers Conference contest on Jan. 17 at the MHS gym.

The Trojans raced out to an 11-2 lead after the first quarter and held a 29-10 halftime advantage. The count was 49-16 after three periods and then Bureau Valley went scoreless in the fourth.

Aden Tillman fired in four three-pointers on his way to a 16-point performance for the Trojans. Domenic Richey also hit double-digits with 10 tallies, while Evan McPheeters provided eight markers.

\*\*\*

Kewanee posted a 51-38 triumph over the Trojans in conference action on Jan. 20 at the MHS gym. Mendota has a 3-3 league mark. The visitors opened up a 16-10 first-quarter

lead and maintained that same margin (26-20) at intermission. Kewanee began to pull away in the third quarter when it outscored the Trojans, 15-9.

Tillman led the MHS offense with 13 points as he dropped in three shots from beyond the arc. Dane Doyle and Alex Beetz provided eight points apiece for the Trojans.

\*\*\*

It was a tale of two halves as Mendota gave up a big lead and lost at Stillman Valley, 53-46, on Jan. 21. MHS is 12-10 on the season.

The Trojans led 19-10 after one and 32-21 at the half before being outscored, 32-14, in the second half.

Doyle led the Mendota offense with 20 points, connecting on four shots from three-point territory. Braiden Freeman netted 10 points, while Cam Kelly drained three trifectas and added nine points.

## Trojans handle Bureau Valley, fall to Kewanee & Stillman V.

❑ 4 players hit double digits in victory over Storm

A fast start propelled Mendota to a 72-58 victory over Bureau Valley in a Three Rivers Conference varsity boys' basketball match-up on Jan. 17 at the MHS gym.

Izaiah Nanez keyed the first-quarter uprising as he hit three shots from three-point land to vault the Trojans into a 17-8 advantage after the opening stanza. Nanez added another trey in the second quarter and Mendota took a 30-16 lead to the locker room.

The Trojans placed four players in double figure scoring, led by Rafael Romero with 18 points. Nanez ended with 17 points, while Isaac Guzman (11) and Jace Baird (10) also hit the double-digit mark.

\*\*\*

Mendota couldn't keep pace with Kewanee in dropping a 52-45 conference

decision to the Boilers on Jan. 20 at the MHS gym.

The Trojans, who dipped to 2-4 in league play, held a 12-11 lead after the first quarter. Mendota still owned a one-point margin late in the half before the Boilers got consecutive three-pointers from Catrelle Reed and Brady Clark to take a 26-21 to intermission.

Kewanee led by as many as seven points in the third period, but an 8-2 scoring binge by the Trojans allowed them to grab a 32-31 lead with 3:30 left in the quarter. However, Mendota went scoreless over the remainder of the stanza and Kewanee tallied the final six points to take a 37-32 advantage to the fourth quarter.

Mendota hung around in the fourth and got to within two points on a Romero hoop with 2:56 to go, but the

Boilers scored eight of the final 11 points in the game to preserve the victory.

Romero's 14 points topped the Mendota scoring chart, followed by Cale Strouss with 10 and Nanez with nine.

\*\*\*

Mendota came up on the short end of a 59-57 score to former Big Northern Conference foe Stillman Valley in nonconference action on Jan. 21 at Stillman Valley.

The Trojans were down 14-7 after the first period, but fought back to within two (24-22) at the break. A strong fourth-quarter comeback by Mendota fell short.

Nanez had a huge offensive game for the Trojans (8-17), dropping in five three-pointers on his way to a 26-point effort. Guzman was next with 13 markers, while Romero supplied 12 tallies.

MENDOTA 72, BUREAU V. 58				
Bureau Valley (58)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Balensiefen	7	0-1	4	15
Hulsing	2	2-4	3	6
Stier	2	0-0	0	5
Helms	2	1-1	4	6
Chhim	5	2-3	1	13
I. Attig	1	0-0	2	2
Dybek	1	0-1	0	2
Endress	3	1-1	2	9
Totals	23	6-11	16	58

Mendota (72)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Guzman	5	0-0	2	11
Romero	6	6-12	3	18
Stamberger	1	0-0	3	2
Nanez	5	3-3	0	17
R. Strouss	4	0-0	2	8
Baird	3	3-6	1	10
Aughenbaugh	3	0-0	4	6
Totals	27	12-21	15	72

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Bureau Valley	8	16	37	58
Mendota	17	30	52	72
Three-point goals: Mendota - Guzman 1, Baird 1, Nanez 4; Bureau Valley - Balensiefen 1, Stier 1, Helms 1, Chhim 1, Endress 2				

KEWANEE 52, MENDOTA 45				
Kewanee (52)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Lewis	5	1-2	1	11
Reed	4	2-2	2	11
Rumbold	3	0-0	2	6
Little	3	0-0	3	6
Clark	5	4-7	2	17
Jordan	0	1-2	3	1
Johnston	0	0-0	2	0
Totals	20	8-13	15	52

Mendota (45)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Guzman	1	0-0	0	2
Stamberger	0	0-0	1	0
Romero	6	2-4	4	14
Nanez	2	4-4	2	9
R. Strouss	2	0-0	3	4
C. Strouss	3	2-4	4	10
Baird	0	0-0	1	0
Aughenbaugh	2	0-0	2	6
Totals	16	8-12	17	45

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Kewanee	11	26	37	52
Mendota	12	21	32	45
Three-point goals: Mendota - C. Strouss 2, Aughenbaugh 2, Nanez 1; Kewanee - Clark 3, Reed 1				

STILLMAN V. 59, MENDOTA 57				
Mendota (57)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
C. Strouss	1	0-0	4	2
Guzman	5	2-7	0	13
Romero	5	2-6	4	12
Nanez	9	3-4	1	26
R. Strouss	1	0-0	4	2
Stamberger	0	2-2	2	2
Baird	0	0-0	2	0
Aughenbaugh	0	0-0	1	0
Totals	21	9-19	18	57

Stillman Valley (59)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Pierce	4	2-3	2	10
Stewart	1	0-0	3	2
Johnson	1	4-4	2	6
Rauman	0	0-0	1	0
Dunsth	5	3-4	1	16
Broski	3	0-0	4	8
McKee	2	0-0	4	4
Rhodes	1	0-0	1	2
Rahn	4	3-6	2	11
Totals	21	12-17	20	59

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	7	22	40	57
Stillman Valley	14	24	46	59
Three-point goals: Mendota - Nanez 5, Guzman 1; Stillman Valley - Dunsth 3, Broski 2				



## L. Bauer off to bowling state event

❑ Junior takes 9th place in sectional

ROCKFORD – Mendota High School bowler Landon Bauer earned a berth in the IHSA State Bowling Tournament after his performance in the Rockford Guilford Boys' Sectional Bowling Tournament on Jan. 21 at Don Carter Lanes in Rockford.

Bauer, a junior, was one of the top seven bowlers not on a state qualifying team, which earned him a trip to state. Bauer, who finished in ninth place overall among the 145 individuals in the sectional, rolled a six-game series of 1312. His game scores were 256, 195, 201, 221, 245 and 194.

Charlie Hunt of Rockton Hononegah was the individual sectional champion with a 1445 series.

The top six schools in the team standings that will move on to the state tournament are Rockton Hononegah (6544), Machesney Park Harlem (6494), Belvidere North (6022), Huntley (5877), Mundelein (5876) and Lake Zurich (5867).

MHS freshman Paxton Bauer also competed in the sectional tournament, but did not qualify for the state meet. His 1148 series included games of 207, 127, 234, 222, 168 and 190.

The state bowling tournament is set for Friday, Jan. 27 and Saturday, Jan. 28 at St. Clair Bowl in O'Fallon.



## Elite Eight Trojans

Players and coaches from the 1992-93 Mendota High School basketball team were recognized on the 30-year anniversary of the Trojans advancing to the Elite Eight in Champaign. Mendota lost to Hamilton, 75-59, in the quarterfinals of the state tournament. Returning for the reunion, left to right, are assistant coach Mike Wasmer, assistant coach George Pohl, head coach Mike Kilmartin, Aaron Eddy, John Hochstatter, Jason Kilmartin, Toby Fitzgerald and Eric Becker. Team members not attendance included Eric Duke, Jose Medina, Clint Rohman, Chad Rosenwinkel, Jason Kreiling, Troy Chaon, Mark Whitmer, Brian Emm and Bryan Boyer. (Reporter photo)

## Grapplers beaten in triangular

PORT BYRON – The Mendota wrestling team was defeated by Princeton and Riverdale in a triangular meet at Port Byron on Jan. 17.

Princeton scored a 57-12 victory over the Trojans. Albert Harris got a pin win in the 220-pound weight class, while Cadence Thornton was a forfeit winner at 113 pounds. Riverdale blanked the Trojans, 76-0.

**Jan. 17 @ Port Byron**

**Princeton 57, Mendota 12**

106 – Swanson (P) won forfeit; 113 – Cadence Thornton (M) won forfeit; 120 – Gibson (P) won forfeit; 126 – DePauw (P) won forfeit; 132 – Christiansen (P) dec. Sam Christmann (M), 14-2; 138 – Benavidez (P) dec. Corbin Furar (M), 18-1; 145 – Christiansen (P) pinned Lea Turner (M), 0:45; 152 – Etheridge (P) pinned Reyli Sandoval (M), 0:42; 160 – Arkels (P) pinned Dean Gilbert (M), 170 – Etheridge

(P) won forfeit; 182 – Berlin (P) pinned JP Belmonte (M), 2:31; 195 – double forfeit; 220 – Albert Harris (M) pinned Morris (P), 2:40; 285 – Odell (P) pinned Gabe Vallejo (M), 1:09

**Riverdale 76, Mendota 0**

106 – Wainright (R) won forfeit; 113 – Th. Jacobs (R) pinned Thornton (M), 0:42; 120 – T. Jacobs (R) won forfeit; 126 – double forfeit; 132 – Kruse (R) dec. Gavin Evans (M), 9-0; 138 – Br. Smith (R) dec. Jose Hermsillo (M), 20-4; 145 – B. Smith (R) pinned Turner (M), 0:22; 152 – Hinde (R) pinned Julian Jordan (M), 2:56; 160 – Altensey (R) pinned Gilbert (M), 0:38; 170 – Watson (R) won forfeit; 182 – Bradley (R) pinned Belmonte (M), 1:17; 195 – Hager (R) won forfeit; 220 – Hill (R) pinned Harris (M), 3:30; 285 – Boustian (R) pinned Vallejo (M), 1:22

106 – Swanson (P) won forfeit; 113 – Cadence Thornton (M) won forfeit; 120 – Gibson (P) won forfeit; 126 – DePauw (P) won forfeit; 132 – Christiansen (P) dec. Sam Christmann (M), 14-2; 138 – Benavidez (P) dec. Corbin Furar (M), 18-1; 145 – Christiansen (P) pinned Lea Turner (M), 0:45; 152 – Etheridge (P) pinned Reyli Sandoval (M), 0:42; 160 – Arkels (P) pinned Dean Gilbert (M), 170 – Etheridge

106 – Swanson (P) won forfeit; 113 – Cadence Thornton (M) won forfeit; 120 – Gibson (P) won forfeit; 126 – DePauw (P) won forfeit; 132 – Christiansen (P) dec. Sam Christmann (M), 14-2; 138 – Benavidez (P) dec. Corbin Furar (M), 18-1; 145 – Christiansen (P) pinned Lea Turner (M), 0:45; 152 – Etheridge (P) pinned Reyli Sandoval (M), 0:42; 160 – Arkels (P) pinned Dean Gilbert (M), 170 – Etheridge

## IVCC softball clinic scheduled for February 18 & 19

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's softball team will host the 24th annual IVCC Eagles Softball Clinic Saturday, Feb. 18 and Sunday, Feb. 19 in the IVCC gym.

Coaches and current players will offer softball instruction in hitting, bunting, fielding, throwing, base running and communication.

There are two sessions

each day. On Saturday, participants in grades 2-4 meet 8 to 10:30 a.m. Grades 5-8 meet 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On Sunday, grades 2-4 meet 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with grades 5-8 meeting 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Cost is \$40 per player and includes five hours of instruction and a T-shirt. If a player can only come one day, cost is \$25.

All players should bring a glove and tennis shoes (no spikes or cleats allowed). If a player has her own bat, she is allowed to bring it. Please make sure all items have the player's name on them for identification purposes.

To register, contact softball coach Cory Tomasson at (815) 224-0471 or the athletic department at (815) 224-0472.





Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

**Jan. 30 –  
Feb. 5, 2023**

We remember the two Patron Saints of Catholic Education:  
Elizabeth Ann Seton & Bishop John Neumann



**Catholic Schools**  
**Faith. Excellence. Service.**

**Monday, January 30:**  
**Class Color - Dress Apparel**  
**Donuts with Grandparents**

**Tuesday, January 31:**  
**Your Favorite Sports Team Apparel**

**Wednesday, February 1:**  
**Dodge Ball Tournament**  
**Grades 5-8**

**Thursday, February 2:**  
**Bowling at the Elks**  
**Grades K-8**

**Friday, February 3:**  
**Bingo with Parents**

SEE THE HCS OPTION C WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION



**a dozen reasons**  
**to choose Catholic Schools**



### Special Activities

**Monday, Jan. 30 - All School Prayer Session**  
**in the Gym**

**Friday, Feb. 3 - All School Mass at**  
**Holy Cross Church at 8:10 a.m.**

**Book Fair**

**January 30 through February 4**

**We are grateful for our many benefactors and prayer**  
**warrior supporters. Thank you!**

**Registration will begin in February for Preschool to**  
**Grade 8 for 2023-2024. Inquire by calling the school**  
**office at 815-539-7003**

### SPONSORS

**Sports-N-Stuff**  
804 Washington St.  
815-539-6354

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

**Stephenitch Do It Best  
Hardware**  
1204 13th Ave  
815-539-9394

**The City of Mendota**  
800 Washington St.  
815-539-7459

**First State Bank**  
706 Washington St. &  
1403 13th Ave.  
800-362-9623  
Member FDIC

**Mendota Monument Co.**  
606 S. Main St.  
815-539-7276

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

**Schimmer Chevrolet Buick  
Commercial Truck Center**  
Rt 251 South  
815-539-9343

**Mauch Carpentry**  
705 Illinois Ave.  
815-539-7867

**Financial Plus Credit Union**  
1905 13th Ave.  
815-539-3444  
Member ESi NCUA

**Walter Bros.  
Plumbing & Heating**  
909 Washington St.  
815-538-6516

**Expression Salon**  
709 Illinois Ave.  
815-830-6033

**Furar's Body Shop**  
306 Plaza Drive  
815-539-6075

**ARS Auto Repair**  
307 Plaza Drive  
815-538-2412

**Pizza By Marchelloni's**  
1210 Meriden St.  
815-538-2145

**VAESSEN**

IMPLEMENT REPAIR

Peter Vaessen, Owner  
542 US Rt. 52 • Sublette, IL 61367  
815-849-9010

**Frank and  
Anita Kobilsek**  
Mendota

**David M. Kaleel**  
Attorney At Law

806 Jefferson St.  
Mendota, IL  
815-539-5616  
Fax: 815-539-5617

**MERRITT**  
FUNERAL HOME

800 Monroe Street  
Mendota, IL 61342  
Phone: 815-539-7211  
www.merrittfh.com



# SPORTS

## BOWLING

### Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Jan. 16-1. Split Happens 17-3; 2. Bad Kats 11-9; 3. CM Farm 11-9; 4. Leagal Beagles 10-10; 5. Ramer Inc. 8-12; 6. Sports-N-Stuff 3-17

High team game (scratch) - Leagal Beagles 729, Split Happens 674, CM Farm 643  
High team game (hdcp) - Leagal Beagles 989, CM Farm 956, Bad Kats 951

High team series (scratch) - Leagal Beagles 2004, Split Happens 1980, CM Farm 1781

High team series (hdcp) - Bad Kats 2796, Leagal Beagles 2784, CM Farm 2720

Men's high game (scratch) - Luke Ross 300, Aaron Hollocker 232, Mike Smith 223

Men's high game (hdcp) - Luke Ross 315, Aaron Hollocker 286, Mike Smith 268

Men's high series (scratch) - Luke Ross 737, Aaron Hollocker 567, Mike Smith 545

Men's high series (hdcp) - Luke Ross 782, Aaron Hollocker 729, Mike Smith 680

Women's high game (scratch) - Gail Sessler 200, Jessica Robinson 190, Audrey Hollocker 188

Women's high game (hdcp) - Audrey Hollocker 272, Gail Sessler 259, Dria Kuntz 256

Women's high series (scratch) - Gail Sessler 557, Jessica Robinson 544, Emily Thomas 482

Women's high series (hdcp) - Gail Sessler 734, Audrey Hollocker 730, Jessica Robinson 706

### Tuesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Jan. 17-1. Black Bros. 54-26; 2. Team 2 38-42; 3. JJ&L Carpentry 35-45; 4. Age Old Organics 32-48

High team game (scratch) - JJ&L Carpentry 1059, Team 2 1021, Black Bros.

936

High team game (hdcp) - JJ&L Carpentry 1146, Team 2 1090, Black Bros. 1071

High team series (scratch) - JJ&L Carpentry 3162, Team 2 2882, Black Bros. 2644

High team series (hdcp) - JJ&L Carpentry 3423, Age Old Organics 3103, Team 2 3089

High individual game (scratch) - Luke Ross 256, Owen Wixom 241, Jake Lohmeier 236

High individual series (scratch) - Luke Ross 744, Owen Wixom 660, Beau Wixom 641

### Wednesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Jan. 18-1. First State Bank 42.5-33.5; 2. Boelk Truck Lines 41.5-34.5; 3. Mendota Monument 35-41; 4. O'Donnell Excavating 33-43

High team game (scratch) - Mendota Monument 1060, Boelk Truck Lines 1037, First State Bank 941

High team game (hdcp) - Boelk Truck Lines 1178, Mendota Monument 1109, O'Donnell Excavating 1041

High team series (scratch) - Mendota Monument 2966, Boelk Truck Lines 2816, First State Bank 2681

High team series (hdcp) - Boelk Truck Lines 3239, Mendota Monument 3113, O'Donnell Excavating 3050

High individual game (scratch) - Nate Bradford 300, Mark Wixom 235, Joe Kennedy & Matt Novak 233

High individual series (scratch) - Nate Bradford 775, Joe Kennedy 641, Joel Bejster 613

### Elks 4

#### Youth League

Standings as of Jan. 19-1. Team 5 27-9; 2. Team 2 23-13; 3. Team 4 20-16; 4. Team 3 12-24; 5. Team 1 10-26

High team game (scratch)

- Team 3 279, Team 4 231, Team 5 215

High team game (hdcp) - Team 3 624, Team 4 593, Team 5 585

High team series (scratch) - Team 3 797, Team 4 692, Team 5 594

High team series (hdcp) - Team 3 1832, Team 4 1778, Team 5 1704

Boys' high game (scratch) - Parker Ramer 108, Kaden Young 106, Billy Bromenschenkel V 103

Boys' high game (hdcp) - Kaden Young 234, Billy Bromenschenkel V 233, Kannon DeLao 208

Boys' high series (scratch) - Parker Ramer 297, Billy Bromenschenkel V 258, Kaden Young 253

Boys' high series (hdcp) - Billy Bromenschenkel V 648, Kaden Young 637, Kannon DeLao 613

Girls' high game (scratch) - Gabby Diaz 86

Girls' high game (hdcp) - Gabby Diaz 233

Girls' high series (scratch) - Gabby Diaz 196

Girls' high series (hdcp) - Gabby Diaz 637

### Elks 6

#### Youth League

Standings as of Jan. 19-1. Team 1 20-16; 2. Team 2 4-32; 3. Team 3 4-32

High team game (scratch) - Team 1 379

High team game (hdcp) - Team 1 623

High team series (scratch) - Team 1 1033

High team series (hdcp) - Team 1 1765

Boys' high game (scratch) - Kooper Novak 190, Toby Bulen 143, Oliver Turner 138

Boys' high game (hdcp) - Kooper Novak 235, Toby Bulen 224, Oliver Turner 223

Boys' high series (scratch) - Kooper Novak 454, Oliver Turner 390, Toby Bulen 307

Boys' high series (hdcp) - Oliver Turner 645, Kooper Novak 589, Toby Bulen 550



### Outstanding season

The Holy Cross School sixth grade basketball team had a great 2022-2023 season. It won the Holy Cross Tournament and the Oglesby Holy Family Tournament, and had an overall record of 17-1. Members of the team, front row, left to right, are Liam Jones, Leo Engels, Will Augenbaugh, Damien Dissell and Cale Full. Back row, Cam Pawlowski, coach Eric Pawlowski, Joe Cackley, Cal Doyle, Quinn Eddy and coach Aaron Eddy. Not pictured: Rafa Arteaga and Black Cyrocki. (Photo contributed)



Mendota's Ryne Strauss gets fouled by Kewanee's Brady Clark while attempting a rebound in Three Rivers Conference action on Jan. 20 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

# BUSINESS CARD BULLETIN BOARD

**Central Bank**  
ILLINOIS  
Our Central focus is YOU  
1721 Midtown Road  
Peru, IL  
(815) 220-1647  
central-bank.com  
Member FDIC

**Nightengales Thrift Shop**  
708 Jefferson St., Mendota  
Open 12-3:30  
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat  
1st and 3rd Saturday  
- 1/2 Off  
THRIFT STORE SAVINGS

**Wasmer**  
FUNERAL HOME  
Celebration Of Life Center  
Catherine Wasmer  
2112 W. Main St. • Mendota • 815-539-8500

**Triple Service**  
PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING • ELECTRIC  
815-539-3828  
866-539-3828  
Mendota • www.tripleserviceinc.com • IL Lic. #055-041123

**MENDOTA MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY**  
SINCE 1875  
See our webpage for a list of our agents in your area!  
www.MendotaMutual.com

**EKANA**  
NURSERY & LANDSCAPING, INC.  
Garden Center & Custom Landscape Design  
417 US-34 • Mendota  
(815) 538-4800  
By Appointment Only

**FURAR'S BODY SHOP**  
P.O. Box 272  
306 Plaza Drive  
Mendota, IL 61342  
Phone (815) 539-6075  
DAVID FURAR, Owner

**Eureka Savings BANK**  
1300 13th Avenue • Mendota, IL 61342  
(815) 539-5656  
www.eurasavings.com  
MEMBER FDIC

**MEYERS**  
FURNITURE & FLOORING  
HWY 251 SOUTH • MENDOTA • 815-539-6263

**FIRST STATE INSURANCE**  
INSURANCE - ALL LINES  
MIKE WASMER 715 Washington St.  
815-539-5651 P.O. Box 497  
Fax: 815-538-2614 Mendota, IL 61342  
email: fsi@mtco.com

**SULLIVANS FOODS**  
1102 Meriden St., Mendota • 815-539-9341

**FIRST STATE BANK**  
706 Washington St. • 1403 13th Ave.  
Mendota, IL 61342  
815.539.3834  
firststatebank.biz  
Member FDIC



# NIE FUN PAGE



## Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10.  
The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right.  
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

2		1	7
	0		14
	7	6	21
19	11	12	

9	7	8
5	0	6
1	4	2

*Solution*

## THIS DAY IN...



## HISTORY

• **1653:** THE CITY OF NEW AMSTERDAM, WHICH WILL LATER BE RENAMED THE CITY OF NEW YORK, IS INCORPORATED.

• **1876:** THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL CLUBS IS FORMED.

• **1922:** "ULYSSES" BY JAMES JOYCE IS PUBLISHED.



HUMAN HEARTS ARE THE SIZE OF A FIST. WHICH MAMMALS HAVE THE LARGEST HEARTS?

*ANSWER: WHALES*

## Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

THARE NTOHM

*Answer: Heart month*



## MURMUR

a recurring sound in the heart usually indicative of disease or damage



**ENGLISH:** Vein

**SPANISH:** Vena

**ITALIAN:** Vena

**FRENCH:** Veine

**GERMAN:** Vene



THE BEATING SOUND OF THE HEART IS CAUSED BY THE VALVES OF THE HEART OPENING AND CLOSING.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

*ANSWER: STETHOSCOPE*

## NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION SPONSORS

**Kingspan.**  
1101 Lori Lane • Mendota  
763-477-5854

**FINANCIAL + plus**  
CREDIT UNION  
1905 13th Ave., Mendota  
815-539-3444

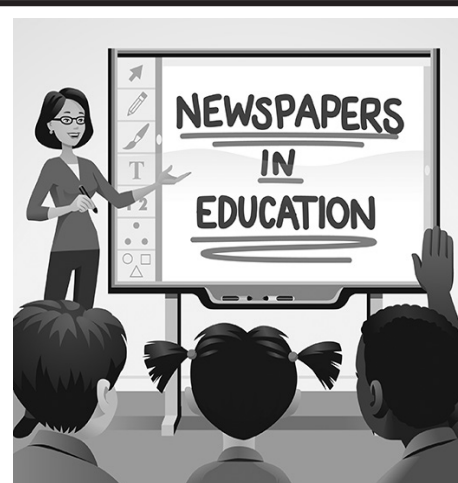
Ottawa | Peru | Morris | Diamond  
www.financialplus.org  
**ESI** EXCESS SHARE INSURANCE **NCUA** **HOME** CREDIT



**MAZE LUMBER**  
Build it once. Build it right.

1100 Water Street, Peru, IL 61354  
815-223-1742

The Newspapers In Education (NIE) program is designed as an educational tool to enhance our local students' understanding of the world around them. The Mendota Reporter wishes to recognize these 2022-2023 sponsors and their commitment to education!



Est 1848

**FIRST FEDERAL**  
SAVINGS BANK

Banking for Life  
1205 Washington St.  
Mendota  
815-539-6757

**HCC, inc.**  
1501 First Ave., Mendota

**The Mendota Reporter**  
703 Illinois Ave.  
Mendota, IL 61342  
815-539-9396  
www.mendotareporter.com



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Celebrity Extra

**By Dana Jackson**  
**Q:** What is Bryan Cranston's new show "Your Honor" about? Does he play a judge? Where can I stream it? -- **L.J.**  
**A:** Yes, Bryan Cranston does play a judge in Showtime's "Your Honor," but it's not your typical courtroom drama. It's about a father who must confront his deepest convictions after his son is involved in a hit-and-run accident and becomes the target of a crime family. In addition to the four-time-Emmy-winning Cranston ("Breaking Bad"), "Your Honor" boasts a stellar cast that also includes Oscar nominee Rosie Perez ("Fearless") as an assistant U.S. attorney.  
Season two premiered this January on Showtime, which can also be streamed as an add-on service through existing streamers like Hulu, Prime Video, Paramount+ and AppleTV+.  
\*\*\*  
**Q:** When is "The Mandalorian" returning with new episodes? I vaguely remember the season two finale having



Cranston

a very young-looking Luke Skywalker. How did they make Mark Hamill appear so young? -- **D.A.**  
**A:** It's been more than two years since the second chapter of the Disney+ Star Wars saga "The Mandalorian" concluded. Mark Hamill, who has played Luke Skywalker since the first "Star Wars" movie wowed audiences in theaters during the summer of 1978, made a surprise cameo in the season two finale. Richard Bluff, industrial light and magic VFX supervisor, explained to IndieWire.com that they tried to recreate Luke as he looked in "Return of the Jedi," and they used both Hamill as well as a younger body double.  
They then used Lola Visual Effect's 2.5D process and compiled photographs and scenes of Hamill from "Return of the Jedi," using Lola's Photoshop-like technique involving skin smoothing and shape warping through 2D compositing. The end result was an astonishingly believable likeness of a young Luke Skywalker.  
Season three of "The Mandalorian" premieres on Disney+ March 1.  
\*\*\*  
**Q:** I was so upset when they canceled "Good Girls." What

are the three female stars doing now that it ended? -- **W.C.**  
**A:** Christina Hendricks, Retta and Mae Whitman reportedly agreed to take pay cuts if NBC renewed their series, "Good Girls," for a fifth season, but unfortunately, it wasn't enough for the show to avoid the ax. It's been rumored that failed negotiations with Manny Montana, who played fan favorite Rio on the show, were what ultimately ended any chances of another season. Apparently, there was no love lost between Hendricks and Montana either, but Hendricks was disappointed in the show's cancellation.  
Up next for Whitman is "Up Here," a new musical comedy series premiering on Hulu in March, co-starring Carlos Valdes ("The Flash"). And Hendricks has joined the cast of an upcoming series on AppleTV+ based on Edith Wharton's unfinished final novel, "The Buccaneers."  
Retta signed a talent-holding deal with NBCUniversal to find projects for her to headline. In the meantime, she's been hosting "Ugliest House in America" on HGTV and is filming the upcoming film "Hitman," co-starring Glen Powell ("Top Gun: Maverick").

## Hollywood

**By Tony Rizzo**  
**HOLLYWOOD**--A 2018 Pennsylvania jury found Bill Cosby guilty on three counts of aggravated indecent assault, for drugging and sexually violating a woman in his Cheltenham, Pennsylvania, home in 2004. He received a three-year sentence, but in 2021, he was released from prison after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court overturned his conviction.  
On the heels of his release, Cosby announced plans to start touring again in late 2023. His promoter claims, "He has hundreds of thousands of supporters asking for him to do a show." Recently, five women, including two from "The Cosby Show," filed sexual assault lawsuits against Cosby using a new New York law, the Adult Survivors Act, which lets victims sue abusers even after the statute of limitations expires. Cosby believes, "When I come out of this, I'll be able to perform and be the Bill Cosby my audience



Cosby

knows me to be."  
Still the question persists ... in view of his predatory crimes, will people find anything he says funny?  
\*\*\*  
Here's another one for the history books. Franco Zeffirelli's 1968 classic "Romeo and Juliet" starred then-unknowns Leonard Whiting (16) and Olivia Hussey (15), who became overnight sensations after the success of the film. The film won Oscars for cinematography and costume design, and the two young actors both won Golden Globe Awards for Most Promising Newcomers.  
Of the two, Hussey had a more important career. In 1971, she wed Dean Martin's son Dean Paul Martin, of the pop group Dino, Desi & Billy. I photographed their Las Vegas wedding with the entire Martin clan. In 2015, Hussey and Whiting reunited for the British romantic psychological thriller "Social Suicide." The film went pretty much unnoticed.  
Flash forward to December 2022, when Whiting and Hussey filed a lawsuit through the Los Angeles county Superior Court, accusing Paramount Pictures (who released "Romeo and Juliet") of sexually exploiting them and distributing nude images of adolescent children. Director Zeffirelli died in 2019 and cannot answer for his actions. Apparently, they claim Zeffirelli assured them that there would be no nudity. They were fitted with flesh-colored undergarments, but he convinced them to use body makeup instead. They claim mental anguish and emotional distress has followed them in the 55 years since the film's release.  
Yet Hussey told Variety in 2018, "Nobody my age had done that before." She said that Zeffirelli shot it tastefully, which was needed for the film at a time when nudity was common in European films. She also told Fox News, "It wasn't that big of a deal. And Leonard Whiting wasn't shy at all! In the middle of shooting, I just completely forgot I didn't have any clothes on." You can buy a lot of clothes with the \$500 million damages they're seeking!  
(c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Couch Theater

"Everything Everywhere All at Once" (R) -- Evelyn Quan lives in a state of chaos in her everyday life. She is the owner of a laundromat and mother to her misunderstood daughter, Joy, and a million other tasks always seem to snatch up her attention. Because of this, her relationships begin to fall apart, leading up to one seemingly ordinary day when her life gets flipped upside down. A version of her husband, Waymond, from an alternate universe, visits her in need of her help from the evil Jobu Tupaki, who plans to destroy each existing universe one by one. As this alternate Waymond teaches her about the multiverse, Evelyn learns she has a much bigger purpose than she ever imagined in the fight against Jobu. With Michelle Yeoh and Ke Huy Quan taking home Golden Globes for this visually stunning film, "Everything Everywhere All at Once" is incredibly profound -- and a must-watch. Out now.

(Showtime)  
"You People" (R) -- Ezra Cohen (Jonah Hill) hasn't had much luck in his quest for love, although marriage is something he definitely sees in his future. When he accidentally wanders in Amira's (Lauren London) car, thinking that she's his Uber driver, he begs her for the chance to make it up to her. Ezra and Amira begin to hit it off, and Ezra finally feels like he's found the right person for him. As he makes plans to propose to Amira, Ezra's friend, Sam, tells him he needs to speak with Amira's family. So, Ezra sits down with Amira's parents (Eddie Murphy and Nia Long), and he finds that integrating his Jewish family with Amira's Black family isn't as seamless as he thought it'd be. Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Mike Epps also star in this relatable comedy film, co-written by Hill and director Kenya Barris. "You People" premieres Jan. 27. (Netflix)

"Shotgun Wedding" (R) -- Originally starring Armie Hammer as the male lead before abuse allegations came out against him, this romantic comedy film about a destination wedding replaced him with Josh Duhamel in the male lead role, with Jennifer Lopez as his opposite. They play a couple named Tom and Darcy, who are about to say their "I do's" in the perfect tropical setting. At first, Tom and Darcy think the worst of their worries will be dealing with their eccentric family members. But then, right before the wedding, plans get interrupted by a heavily loaded gang of criminals. The criminals take Tom and Darcy's families hostage, but the couple manages to escape and attempts to get help while simultaneously running from the captors. Is there any better way to start the rest of your lives together? This Prime Video original film premieres Jan. 27. (Prime Video)  
(c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Strange But True

**By Lucie Winborne**  
\* During World War II, the Lay-Z-Boy company had to stop producing recliners because of the war effort. Instead, they used their production facility to mass produce (we hope much more comfortable) seats for tanks and other military vehicles.  
\* Champagne was originally a holy wine.

### • Trivia Test •

1. MUSIC: Which band sang the theme song to TV's "Friends"?  
2. ANATOMY: What is the only bone in the human body that isn't attached to another bone nearby?  
3. LITERATURE: What is the setting for the "Anne of Green Gables" novel series?  
4. TELEVISION: Who plays the lead role in the sitcom "Mr. Mayor"?  
5. GEOGRAPHY: Where are the Spanish Steps located?  
6. HISTORY: How long did the first man in space, Yuri Gagarin, orbit the planet?  
7. AD SLOGANS: Which restaurant chain advises customers to "eat fresh"?  
8. SCIENCE: What is the only form of energy that can be seen with the human eye?

9. ANIMAL KINGDOM: With which animal do humans share 98.8% of their DNA?  
10. MOVIES: Which movie features the famous line, "I see dead people"?  
Answers  
1. The Rembrandts ("I'll Be There for You").  
2. The hyoid bone.  
3. Prince Edward Island.  
4. Ted Danson.  
5. Rome, Italy.  
6. 108 minutes.  
7. Subway Restaurants.  
8. Light.  
9. Chimpanzee.  
10. "The Sixth Sense" (1999).  
(c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

### King Crossword

**ACROSS**  
1 Choir voice  
5 Right angle  
8 Dallas team, to fans  
12 Check  
13 Sheep call  
14 Out of the storm  
15 Rub with an emery board, perhaps  
17 Speck  
18 Author Fleming  
19 T-shirt fabric  
21 Primitive  
24 Spartan queen  
25 Hamilton-Burr showdown  
26 Criticize again and again  
30 Nabokov novel  
31 Two-tone cookies  
32 Ms. Thurman  
33 Road marker  
35 Help a crook  
36 Temporary calm  
37 Steinway product  
38 "With any luck"  
41 Fragrant tree  
42 2004 on a cornerstone  
43 Color akin to turquoise  
48 French river  
49 Wildebeest  
50 Cold War initials  
51 Getz of jazz  
52 Kenny G's instrument  
53 Litigates

**DOWN**  
1 "Bow-wow!"  
2 Island garland  
3 Up to  
4 "Anna Christie" playwright  
5 Black, in verse  
6 Murphy's —  
7 Guinevere's lover  
8 Rum cocktail  
9 Oodles  
10 Presidential power  
11 Penn or Astin  
16 Calendar box  
20 Praiseful pieces  
21 Dutch cheese  
22 German car name  
23 Authentic  
24 "The Sound of Music" teenager  
26 Drags out  
27 Hefty horn  
28 Portent  
29 Peacekeeping org.  
31 Piece of work  
34 Football team  
35 Boeing rival  
37 Chart format  
38 Med. plan options  
39 Skip  
40 Tower city  
41 Change  
44 — pickle  
45 Baton Rouge sch.  
46 Exploit  
47 Hosp. parts

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

### Happy 21st Birthday Michelle!



We love you! Mom, Dad, Billie & Susie

# FUN ADS!

## Put A Little Fun In Someone's Life!

Bring In A Photo With A Poem, Verse Or Message—or just a verse or message (No extra charge for photo)

You can run any size ad \$6<sup>50</sup> per column inch for Reporter OR Money Saver \$8<sup>50</sup> per column inch in BOTH (See examples)

Call 815-539-9396 for more information

1 Column x 4"  
\$26 in Reporter Or Money Saver  
\$34 To Run In Both

2 Column x 2"  
\$26 in Reporter Or Money Saver  
\$34 To Run In Both

### CONGRATULATIONS!

on passing your State Exams

## Carol Ann Smith, RN

Love, Joey



### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

Member FDIC

Brought to you each week by

**FIRST STATE BANK**

Solution time: 23 mins.

King Crossword



# WHO CAN DO IT?

## BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

### AUTO SALES



**Carole Eich**  
Sales & Leasing Consultant

**JP Chevrolet**  
**Nissan - Mercedes-Benz**  
3675 Frontage Rd.  
Peru, IL 61354

815-223-7000 • Fax: 815-224-4288 • www.jpchevy.com

### INSURANCE

#### Heiting Insurance Agency

Serving the Mendota & surrounding area for 25+ years!

Dick Heiting • Suzanne Heiting

Auto/Home/Business/Farm

**(815) 539-9265** 1409 E. Main  
Mendota

### TRANSPORTATION



**Mendota Area Senior Services**

#### Programs & Services:

- Transportation Services
- Caregiver Support & Services
- Options Counseling
- Lending Closet
- Senior Health Insurance Program
- Educational Opportunities (Computer Lab & Resource Center)
- Advocacy
- Information & Assistance
- Congregate Meal Site
- Senior Center

1901 Tom Merwin Drive, Mendota, IL  
815-539-7700 • mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com

### BANKING • LOANS • MORTGAGES

Loans Designed Around You!

- New Construction Loans
- Home Equity Loans
- VA and USDA Loans
- Conventional Loans
- **Now offering FHA!**

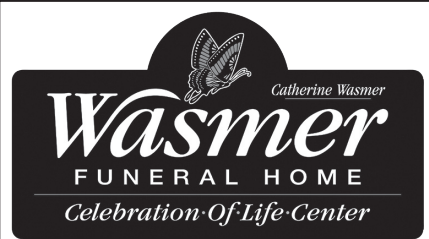


Linda Hessenberger  
NMLS# 477893  
(815) 220-1865

**Central Bank**  
ILLINOIS  
central-bank.com



### FUNERAL HOME



2112 W. Main St.  
Mendota  
815-539-8500

### MOVERS



### AUTO DETAILING



HAND WASH • FULL DETAIL  
CERAMIC COATING



Mon-Fri: 8:30am-5:30pm • Sat: 9am - 2pm  
1204 6th Ave. Rt. 34 • Mendota, IL  
(815) 252-9518 • (815) 539-9575

### LANDSCAPING



Garden Center & Custom  
Landscape Design

417 US-34 • Mendota By Appointment  
(815) 538-4800 Only

### AUTO REPAIR



307 Plaza Dr. • 815-538-2412

COMPLETE  
AUTO REPAIR  
SPECIALIZING IN:  
Auto Transmission &  
Computer Diagnostics



### INSURANCE COMPANY



Mendota's ONLY insurance company!  
www.MendotaMutual.com

### PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING • ELECTRIC

**Triple Service**  
PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING • ELECTRIC

PLUMBING HEATING COOLING ELECTRIC  
INDOOR AIR QUALITY WATER CONDITIONING  
DUCT CLEANING • SEALING  
24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICES

Gabe and Michelle Wade  
3rd Generation owners

TRIPLESERVICEINC.COM 815-539-3828  
IL Lic. #055-041123

### LEAKPROOF ROOFING

GUARANTEED LEAKPROOF ROOFING



Industrial • Commercial • Residential  
For low pitched flat roofs

Featuring Duro-Last®

705 Illinois Ave. • 815-539-5142  
License #104005528

www.northernillinoisseamlessroofing.com

### RESALE SHOP

#### Nightengales Thrift Shop

708 Jefferson St., Mendota

Open 12-3:30

Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat

1st and 3rd

Saturday -

1/2 off



### GROCERY STORE



We're your full service  
grocery store!

1102 Meriden St., Mendota • 815-539-9341  
Open 6am-10pm • 7 days a week

### FINANCIAL INSTITUTION



Chris Holden  
VP, Mortgage Lending  
NMLS#461073



Cory Biers  
Sr. Vice President  
NMLS#477892

#### FIRST STATE BANK

706 Washington St. and 1403 13th Ave., Mendota  
815.539.3834  
firststatebank.biz

### SMALL ENGINE REPAIR



SALES & SERVICE | SNOWBLOWER REPAIR

205 W. Main St. | Sublette, IL | 815-849-5225  
mainstreetrepair16@yahoo.com

### CARPENTRY



- New Homes
- Remodeling
- Kitchens
- Baths
- Additions
- Garages
- Drywall
- Ceramic Tile

(815) 539-7867 Dial "KEY-STOP"

License #104005528

### INSURANCE



FIRST STATE INSURANCE  
Mendota • Earlville  
815-539-5651

### POST FRAME BUILDINGS



N L Morton Buildings, Ltd.  
Mendota, IL 61342  
815-539-9325  
Jim Stremlau  
Commercial- Ag- Residential  
New Construction & Repair

### REAL ESTATE

**ERBES Realty**

1922 Tower Rd, Sublette, IL  
815-535-6295  
Lori Erbes, GRI  
Designated Managing Broker

### FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

**Eureka Savings BANK**

For all your home loan needs, see  
**Jesse Arellano**  
NMLS #1815886

1300 13th Ave. • Mendota, IL 61342  
(815) 539-5656 • www.eurekasavings.com

### SENIOR LIVING



A Retirement Community

Senior Living Redefined

1700 Burlington St.

Mendota, IL

815-538-5300

### ELECTRIC



Greg Mathesius

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Residential

Authorized Generac  
Dealer and Services

**GENERAC**

815-884-9040  
Earlville, Illinois

### TREE SERVICE

**ATS**

INSURED AND BONDED

FREE ESTIMATES

**ALBERS TREE SERVICE**

JAKE 815-303-3751  
JORDAN 815-252-3521

### HEATING/COOLING • PLUMBING

**GRASSER'S**  
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

Heating/Cooling • Plumbing  
We Sell & Service All  
Name Brand Appliances

815-882-2111  
404 W Main St • McNabb  
grassersplumbingheating.com

### MOVING

FREE ESTIMATES! **HIGHSMITH HAUL AWAY**  
& JUNK REMOVAL

**815-993-8673**

Junk Removal  
Estate Cleanouts  
Furniture & Appliance Removal

Garage & Basement Cleanout  
Light Demolition  
& More

MENTION THIS AD AND GET 10% OFF!

HighsmithHaulAway.com

### HOME SERVICES

**Quality First Inspections, LLC**  
QFINOW.COM

**Mark F Stelmack**  
Owner/Licensed Home Inspector  
Mark.Stelmack@qfinow.com

Facebook - Quality First Inspections  
Instagram - Quality First Inspections

Phone 815-503-1696

### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

**KIRCH**  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & SALES

Kirch Property Management and Sales currently has 1, 2, 3 BEDROOM and studio units available for rent in MENDOTA. Units also available in SHABBONA, PLANO, SANDWICH and OTTAWA. Please check out our available rentals and applications online at kirchpropertymanagement.com or call our office at 630-897-5800.





CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

**MENDOTA**

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Rev. Peter A. Pilon, Pastor  
Ray Fischer, Jose Lopez,  
and Hector Diaz, Deacons  
.....

HOLY CROSS, MENDOTA

Weekday Mass  
Weekend Mass  
Confession

STS. PETER AND PAUL,  
PETERSTOWN

Weekend Mass  
Confession

FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

100 E. Sixth St.  
(815) 538-5587  
.....

Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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

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

Jan. 29 - 9 a.m. Sunday School;  
9:30 a.m. Worship  
Jan. 31 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Prayer walking

ZION UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.  
.....

Pastor Jeff Brace  
jbrace8459@gmail.com

Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United  
Methodist Church

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

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

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



If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

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

UNITED PENTECOSTAL  
CHURCH

Route 251 North  
(815) 539-6861  
.....

Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor

E-mail: mendotaupc@yahoo.com  
www.mendotaupc.org

SUNDAY: Christian Education  
Sunday Worship

WEDNESDAY

VICTORY BAPTIST  
CHURCH

"Faithful & Effective"

505 W. 7th Ave.  
(815) 539-9081  
.....

Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY  
Sunday school  
Worship

WEDNESDAY  
Prayer Service

NEW COVENANT  
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Rt. 251 at Lake Mendota  
P.O. Box 54

Phone (815) 539-7107 (church)  
(815) 871-5702 (pastor)  
.....

Larry Sheaves, Pastor

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

"Preaching the blood, book and  
blessed hope."

Sunday School  
Worship

MENDOTA BIBLE  
CHURCH

Rt. 251, 1/2 mile south of  
Mendota  
(815) 538-6876  
.....

Brian Kelly, Pastor

www.mendotabiblechurch.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE  
Sunday School  
Worship  
Evening Service

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

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

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

Website:  
www.stjohnsmendota.org

Schedule:  
9 a.m. Sunday Worship in person  
and online via Facebook and Zoom  
Find us on Facebook

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

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

She made a vow and said, "O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head."  
1 SAMUEL 1:11

Detail of "Les Morphinomanes" by Paul-Albert Besnard (1887)

© 2023 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

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

Website: fpcmendota.com  
Accessible

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Jan. 26 - 6:30 p.m. Webelos  
Jan. 27 - 9 a.m.-noon Office open  
Jan. 29 - 10 a.m. Worship;  
11 a.m. Annual Meeting

Facebook page  
www.facebook.com/fpcmendota

Wednesday Evening Gathering:

Live Zoom at 7 p.m.  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86402369150  
To call in for audio only, dial  
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting  
ID: 864 0236 9150

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

CHRIST'S CHURCH

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

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

Dave Manion Jim McDowell  
Wayne Shuman

Please join us for . . .

Sunday Bible Study (all ages) 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Church Builders 12:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 6 p.m.  
Men's Ministry  
Ladies & Mens Bible Study  
Thursday 6 p.m.

Non-denominational  
Please call for more information

COMPTON

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

398 Church Road, Compton  
.....

Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger  
(815) 539-6567

Wheelchair accessible

Website: www.ilccompton.org  
E-mail: immanuellutheran  
compton@live.com

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel  
(Sunday School begins Dec. 4, 9:30)  
10:30 a.m. Worship at First

Jan. 27 - 9:30 a.m. Bible study

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



LA MOILLE

ZION EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

LaMoille (Clarion)

4 miles west of Mendota on Rt. 34  
Pastor Ian Griffith  
(815) 539-7820

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.  
Accessible

COMMUNITY UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

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

Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Nursery available

TROY GROVE

FAITH BIBLE  
FELLOWSHIP

208 W. South St.,  
Troy Grove

Pastor Brian Hamiel  
.....

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

"At Faith Bible Fellowship, we exist  
to glorify God through the equipping  
of His saints, teaching of His Word  
and raising of His name.  
We would love to have you join us  
to worship and learn about  
our risen Savior."

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9 a.m.  
SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. From Leviticus 19:25, the fruit  
of a newly planted tree must not  
be eaten until which year? 2nd,  
3rd, 4th, 5th

3. What was Bathsheba doing  
on the roof when David first saw  
her? Bathing, Praying, Singing,  
Hiding

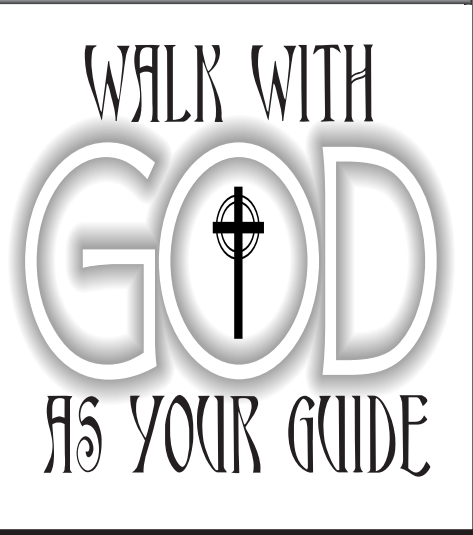
4. Samson's strength was  
correlated with what part of his  
body? Heart, Chest, Hair, Legs

5. Job suffered from what  
physical affliction? Deafness,  
Boils, Blindness, Coughs

6. Who was the mate of Esther?  
Jehu, Darius, Xerxes, Abner

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) 5th, 3)  
Bathing, 4) Hair, 5) Boils, 6) Xerxes

(c) 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

faith



# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

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



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

## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, OTTAWA, IL PROBATE DIVISION**  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF )  
)  
) KAINE MICHAEL  
) JAMES PIZANO,  
)  
) DECEASED.  
) NO. 2022-PR-000228

**CLAIM NOTICE**  
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Kaine Michael James Pizano-Olson, of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 28, 2022, to Michael J. Pizano, of Mendota, IL, as **INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR**, whose Attorneys of record are **SCHWEICKERT GANASSIN KRZAK RUNDIO, LLP, 2101 MARQUETTE ROAD, PERU, IL 61354.**

Claims against the estate may be e-filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Downtown County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison Street, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the Representative and, both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. If the claim notice is personally mailed or delivered to a creditor of the above estate, the claim must be filed in the above entitled cause within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, whichever is later. Any claims not filed within the above periods are barred. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers>. htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <https://>

[www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp).

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

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

Dated: December 28, 2022  
Greg Vaccaro  
LaSalle County Circuit Clerk  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
No. 0102  
(Jan. 11, 18 and 25, 2023)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on January 6, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as 3 Graces Farm Art located at 1416 E. US Highway 6, Ottawa, IL. 61350.

Dated: January 6, 2023. Natalie A. Zelman Applicant.  
No. 0105  
(Jan. 11, 18 and 25, 2023)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on January 6, 2023, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Fibrenew Heritage Corridor located at 2216 Spencer Place, Ottawa, IL 61350.  
Dated January 6, 2023  
Darrell & Denise Flem-

ing Applicants  
No. 0106  
(Jan. 11, 18 and 25, 2023)

### PUBLIC NOTICE SENIOR HOMESTEAD & OWNER OCCUPIED EXEMPTIONS

#### NEW APPLICANTS

This Notice is for persons filing for the Homestead Exemption for the first time. All senior citizens who are or will be 65 years old during 2023 and who own and reside in their own home, are eligible for the \$5,000 Senior Homestead Exemption on the 2024 real estate tax bill. A copy of the deed and the owner's driver's license (and any other persons on the deed driver's license(s)) are needed for the application. The signature on this form must be notarized.

#### EXISTING SENIOR HOMESTEADS

Renewal forms for existing Homesteads were mailed out in early February 2023. All recipients should read the form, answer all questions completely and return them to the Township Assessor's Office. (See address below.) If needed, one of our staff members can help you fill out the form.

#### ASSESSMENT FREEZE

Renewal forms for the Assessment Freeze Exemption are included in the mailing with the regular Senior Homestead Exemption. Your total gross household income must be \$65,000 or less. This exemption freezes your assessed valuation, not your taxes. Forms must be filled out, signed, notarized, and returned to the respective township offices. Staff members can assist you with all of this. If your income is between \$55,000 & \$65,000 or shows a loss, we will need a copy of your 2022 form 1040 and the loss schedule.

**NEW HOMEOWNERS**  
If you bought a new

home, this past year and were living in it by January 1, 2023, you will need to fill out an owner occupied exemption form with your local assessor. Your signature on this form must be notarized.

#### VETERANS

Exemptions for Veterans were created by House Bill 664-one for disabled veterans and one for returning servicemen. Forms are available at our office.

#### DISABLED PERSONS

An exemption created by House Bill 664 allows a \$2,000 exemption for a Class II disabled person. Forms are available at our office.

The Mendota Township Assessor's Office is located at the Mendota Township Offices at 602 S. Main St. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 9am-12pm & 1:30pm to 3pm or by appointment. Completed forms may be mailed to Mendota Township Assessor, PO Box 465, Mendota, IL 61342. Staff members can make home visits for homebound individuals. Bilingual assistance is available by appointment. If you have any questions, call the office at 815-539-3201.

## 203 HELP WANTED

**Mendota High School is seeking a Sophomore Baseball Coach for the 2023 Spring Season.**  
**The season starts on Feb. 27th and will end in mid-May.**  
**Previous coaching experience is not required but preferred.**  
**If you are interested please contact Steve Hanson via email at [shanson@mendotahs.org](mailto:shanson@mendotahs.org) or call Mendota High School, 815-539-7446.**

**Employment Opportunity**  
Information & Assistance Specialist  
Immediate full-time position available  
Assists elderly and disabled clients with various local, state, and federal programs.  
Must be self-motivated, organized, and enthusiastic.  
Ability to handle a busy environment with multiple tasks and changing deadlines. Basic computer skills are required and proficiency in Word, Excel and use of on-line databases is preferred.  
Some occasional travel and a background check is required.  
Previous experience working with aged and disabled population preferred.  
Submit letter of interest and resume to:  
Rayanne Sester,  
[mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com](mailto:mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com)  
Mendota Area Senior Services  
P.O. Box 376  
Mendota, IL. 61342  
NO PHONE CALLS ACCEPTED  
Deadline is January 31, 2023

**Full Time Mechanic**  
needed in Ohio, IL  
Diesel Mechanic knowledge is preferred but will train  
**Flexible hours during the week but need to work Saturdays.**  
**Competitive pay and insurance benefits. For more information call 815-376-2792.**

**AMBOY C.U.S.D. #272 IS SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION:**  
**BUS AIDES**  
To apply go to [www.amboy.net](http://www.amboy.net), Employment, Transportation & Start An Application.

### ALL NEW APPLICANTS

All New Exemption Applications & All Assessment Freeze Forms must be Notarized. There are (2) Notaries in the Mendota Township Assessor's Office.

#### OWNER-OCCUPIED EXEMPTION

New Home Owners have to file an Owner-Occupied Exemption Form to get this Exemption. These forms are available at the Mendota Township Assessor's Office. This form has to be Notarized.

#### CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

If the tax bill is to be mailed to a different address, a Change of Address Form must be filled out. These are available at the Mendota Township Assessor's Office. This form must be Notarized.

Susan Hochstatter  
Mendota Township Assessor  
No. 0108  
(Jan. 25, Feb. 1 and 8, 2023)

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

ESTATE OF )  
)  
)

Marian C. Crane,  
)  
) Deceased  
)  
) Case No. 2023-PR-4

**CLAIM NOTICE**  
Notice is given of the death of Marian C. Crane of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office as Independent Administrator were issued on January 6, 2023 to Alan L. Crane of 1411 Rolling Green Drive, Mendota, IL 61342 whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before July 20, 2023 If a claim notice is mailed or delivered personally to a creditor of the decedent, the creditor's claim may be filed on or before the date stated in the notice, if later than the date shown above. Any claim not filed within the time allowed is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.  
No. 0109  
(Jan. 18, 25 and Feb. 1, 2023)

### 2023 NOTICE OF ELECTION OF DIRECTORS TO ALL OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LANDS LYING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE LASALLE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT:

Notice is hereby given that an Election will be held on the 16th day of February 2023 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the USDA Service Center, 1691 N 31st Rd, Ottawa, IL. Two (2) Directors will be elected to serve the LaSalle County Soil and Water Conservation District of the State of Illinois. All persons, firms or corporations who hold legal title or are in legal possession of any land lying within the boundaries of the said district are eligible to vote at said election, whether as lessee, renter, tenant or otherwise. Only such persons, firms or corporations are eligible to vote. Ken Dau Chairman LaSalle County Soil and Water Conservation District  
No. 0110  
(Jan. 25 and Feb. 8, 2023)

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION NO. 2022-JA-51

TO: Alicia Weathersby, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:  
Take notice that on the 12th day of December, 2022 a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Vicki L. Denny, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Ciara Weathersby, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 223 at Ottawa on the 1st day of March, 2023, at the hour of 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an Adjudicatory Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint

a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to your child. If the petition requests the termination of your parental rights and the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption, you may lose all parental rights to the child.

You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights. Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order of judgement entered.

Dated Jan. 19, 2023  
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk  
No. 0111  
(Jan. 25, 2023)

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

ESTATE OF Patricia A. Pellow, Deceased  
Case No. 2023-PR-10

#### CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Patricia A. Pellow of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office as Independent Executors were issued on January 12, 2023 to Jason W. Pankoke of 102 14th Avenue, Mendota, IL 61342 and Lance A. Pellow of 2349 N. Whistle Vale Dr. SW, Byron Center, MI 41315 whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before July 31, 2023 If a claim notice is mailed or delivered personally to a creditor of the decedent, the creditor's claim may be filed on or before the date stated in the notice, if later than the date shown above. Any claim not filed within the time allowed is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.  
No. 0112  
(Jan. 25, Feb. 1 and Feb. 8, 2023)

### WANTED TO BUY:

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

## 301 ANTIQUES

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email [dickharms@hotmail.com](mailto:dickharms@hotmail.com)

## 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

**BE YOUR OWN BOSS!**  
Health & Wellness Industry. No experience necessary. Flexible Hours. Start Your Future Today! Call Now Rick 630-965-1470 (01-25-23)

## 113 FINANCIAL

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

## 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

Furman's Lawn Care and Tree Work. Fall clean up, gutters and more. Fully insured. In business since 1999. Rochelle and surrounding areas. Call Jeremy Furman at 815-761-9619. Please leave a message, will return call ASAP.

## 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

## 301 ANTIQUES

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

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email [dickharms@hotmail.com](mailto:dickharms@hotmail.com)

## 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

SPLIT firewood for sale. Contact 779-251-0254. (02-13-23)

## 601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

**2019 Chevy 1500 High Country Crew Cab 4x4**

2019 Chevy 1500 High Country Crew Cab 4x4, GM Certified, 1-Owner Local Trade, Leather Interior, Heated/Cooled Seats, Sunroof, 24K Miles, More!

Was \$52,900 **\$48,900**

2019 Chevy 1500 High Country Crew Cab, 24k Miles, Black .....	\$48,900
2018 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, 6.0L Gas, 55K Miles, Red.....	\$43,900
2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew, 4x4 High Country, Loaded, 67K Miles, Black.....	\$41,900

### QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2021 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab, LTZ, Duramax Diesel, Z71, 4x4, 81K Miles, Black.....	\$59,900	2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT, Z71, 4X4, 120k Miles, Red.....	\$26,900
2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, Long Box, LT, 4x4, 96K Miles, Red.....	\$37,900	2017 Chevy Equinox LT FWD, 98K Miles, Gray.....	\$13,900
2019 Chevy 1500 Dbl Cab RST, 4WD, Z71, Gray.....	\$28,900	2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71, 128K Miles, Red.....	\$23,900
2019 Cadillac XT4 FWD, 60k Miles, Red .....	\$29,000		

**VAESSEN BROTHERS CHEVROLET, INC.**  
"Great Deals - Great Service Since 1926"

**HIGHWAY 52 SUBLETTE, IL**  
[www.vaessenbrothers.com](http://www.vaessenbrothers.com)  
(815) 849-5232  
1-800-227-5203

**Ally Financing and GMF Financing or Leasing**

**FIND NEW ROADS™**

\* Plus Tax, title and license. Rebates applied. Subject to credit approval.



# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

**Sell your household items for free.**

Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words - one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



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

### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

### 501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT: MENDOTA**  
1 & 2 Bedrooms, Appliances, A/C.  
779-201-0532  
815-498-2262.

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
Downtown upstairs studio apartment for rent \$450, includes water, stove and refrigerator.  
Deposit Required-call 815-910-7011

### 505 BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

Office Spaces for Rent. 1054 Lincoln Hwy., Rochelle. Call 630-544-9673

### 511 STORAGE UNITS

**Mendota MULTIPLE**  
Garages for Rent  
815-539-3747

### MENDOTA STORAGE UNITS

210 N 4099th Rd., Mendota, IL. 61342

#### Available:

30 X 40 1 left \$ 320.00  
10 X 10 2 left \$ 100.00

#### CALL

ADAM 815-830-4422 TRACY 815-791-4582  
Janko Realty Advantage Property Mgmt  
Reserve online at [www.apm4rent.com](http://www.apm4rent.com)

07/25/2022

**ADVERTISE  
WITH US**

### Great Opportunities at Community Newspapers



### Full Time Inside and Outside Account Manager

The Mendota Reporter and Amboy News newspaper, both weekly publications serving friendly and close-knit communities in northern Illinois, has an immediate opening:

#### • Full-time Inside and Outside Account Manager

Are you a dynamic sales rep interested in helping local businesses? If so, we'd love to have you join our sales team!

We need someone who truly appreciates the connection between marketing and sales, someone who genuinely gets excited with each and every sale - big or small. This person also must be comfortable calling on outside markets. We do not cap commissions, so earning potential is unlimited as you grow your client base! We also provide monthly auto allowances for work-related expenses.

#### Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience in an advertising or marketing role
- Basic understanding of digital advertising, media and social channels
- Detail oriented, with an eye for design and copy writing
- Adaptable and self-motivated in learning new software and processes
- Expertise in Microsoft Office Suite with emphasis on Excel

To be successful in this role, the ideal candidate will be detail-oriented, deadline-driven, and demonstrate accurate information management.

We offer a competitive salary commensurate with experience, a pleasant working environment, paid vacation, paid sick time, excellent medical benefits and a 401K investment plan.

Qualified applicants willing to become immersed in both the Amboy and Mendota community, should email their resumes and any clips to Tonja Greenfield, Publisher, at [tgreenfield@mendotareporter.com](mailto:tgreenfield@mendotareporter.com) or mail them to P.O. Box 300, Mendota, IL 61342.

**Buy! Buy! BUY! Sell! Sell! Sell!**



Not sure why  
business is slow?



is not just a saying in  
business.

**Advertise today and let your  
business be in sight and in the  
minds of your customers.**



[IWantToBeRecycled.org](http://IWantToBeRecycled.org)



**KEEP AMERICA  
BEAUTIFUL**



# REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE FEATURED



**JUST ADDED \*\*\*BUYERS BONUS\*\*\*  
\$500 CREDIT FOR REPAIRS OR CLOSING COSTS**  
LARGE RANCH, plenty of room for everyone or everything. Two bonus rooms that can be extra bedrooms, office, game room, toy room, workout room, or anything you need more space for. Three rooms have new carpet. Two full bathrooms. One has a walk in the shower. NEWER roof, furnace & water heater, 3 years old. Master bedroom has an epoxy floor. Ceramic floors in the entryway, bathroom & hallway. Kitchen has lots of cabinets, an island for bar stools & a dining room for table seating. Laundry room has a beautiful glass door, cabinets & a countertop. Attached heated one car garage off an asphalt alley

**Town & Country Realty**  
607 Sixth St. • Mendota  
815-539-6635



"Come Settle With Us"



**815-539-3811**

Helping people find homes since 1983.

1316 Lakewood Plaza • Rte. 251 N. • Mendota

**Gloria Cogdal,**  
Designated Managing Broker

**Sally Corrigan, Broker**  
815-830-8101



**1204 Washington,  
Mendota**  
3-4 BDR, updated kitchen  
and bath, 3 car garage,  
dining room, living room  
with bay window! Vintage  
house lovers this is it!!

**What should I look for when buying a home?**

Answer: First you should have a general idea of what you are needing in a home to make your life more comfortable and fit your needs. Do you need more bedrooms, baths, a dining room, a more modern kitchen, a home office, a big yard? Is it important to you that it is remodeled already, or do you want to make your own changes? A home that needs some work can sometimes give you more bang for the buck than one that has already been remodeled. As a buyer, you need to decide how much elbow grease you are willing or can do to afford the home you want. Homes that are remodeled to today's style will usually be sold faster and for a better price than one not. BUT real estate is about location, location, LOCATION, so you may end up with a great location and a dated home.



**Question  
of the  
Week**

**NOT RAIN, NOT SNOW, NOT SLEET,  
NOR HAIL...SHALL KEEP ONE OF OUR  
REALTORS FROM MAKING A SALE!**



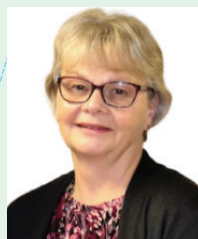
\*REBECCA MCPHEETERS  
MANAGING BROKER/OWNER  
708-220-3338  
becky@tcrealtysales.net



\*JAMI BAUER  
BROKER  
815-993-7751  
jami@tcrealtysales.net



\*RITA LILJA  
BROKER/OWNER  
815-712-7346  
rita@tcrealtysales.net



\*LORI MUNSON  
BROKER  
815-228-4852  
lori@tcrealtysales.net



**Rebecca McPheeters,**  
Designated Managing Broker.



**Town & Country  
Realty**

**607 Sixth St.  
Mendota  
(815) 539-6635  
www.tcrealtysales.net**

**Evening Phone Numbers**  
Becky McPheeters, Designated  
Managing Broker 708-220-3338  
Rita Lilja 815-712-7346  
Jami Bauer 815-993-7751  
Lori Munson 815-228-4852

**McConville**  
REALTY & AUCTIONEERING



**Joe McConville**  
Designated Managing Broker



**612 S. Main St., Mendota, IL**  
**815-539-5673**

E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com  
mcconvillerealtymendota@gmail.com  
Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com

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

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker 815-910-5673  
Marty McConville, Broker 815-200-2233  
Richard McConville, Broker 815-539-5673  
Sharon Kimrey, Broker 815-343-3600  
Melody Nanzer, Broker 815-228-2842

**FREE MARKET  
ANALYSIS**

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

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



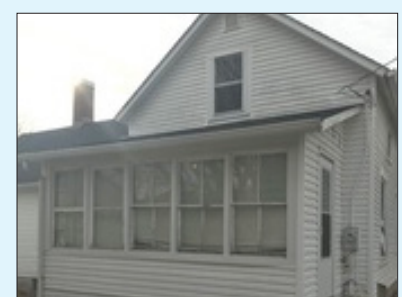
**507 11th Ave., Mendota \$73,000**  
**MLS#11675674**

Looking for a fixer upper. Here is a 4 bedroom home with lots of character and potential. Living room, dining room and den on first floor. 4 bedrooms up. Front and back interior staircases. Large wrap around front porch. 4 car garage on alley. Call for an appointment. McConville Realty at 815 539-5673.



**520 Grant St., Earlville \$209,900**

Beautiful 2 story home with 4 bedrooms, full bath on 2nd level and 1/2 bath on main with a full basement. Natural woodwork with a fabulous open staircase, hardwood floors and gas fireplace, could be wood. Kitchen has new cabinets and custom countertops. Insulated 2 car garage. Home is in process of being painted inside. Home is in a lovely well established neighborhood with lots of trees. Water heater just installed recently and put on Nov 2021. Call for all the amenities. Restaurants, shopping, and the train! Let's take a look!



**509 W. Winthrop St., Earlville \$69,000**  
**MLS #11682529**

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