

Fun-filled activities planned at “A Mendota Christmas” Dec. 3

A day of holiday cheer to include shopping, food, Santa and more

MENDOTA – The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting “A Mendota Christmas” on Saturday, Dec. 3. It is a holiday celebration inviting everyone to come out and enjoy a day of holiday cheer and begin their Christmas shopping. Mendota shops will be decorated and ready for Christmas, featuring gifts for everyone on your list.

A Holiday Craft & Vendor show is set for 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Mendota Elks Lodge featuring crafts and vendor items for all of your holiday gift-giving needs. OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Auxiliary Gift Shop will be open from 9 a.m.-noon to help you with holiday gift ideas for friends and family.

Horse Drawn Carriage Rides, departing from corner of Jefferson Street and Indiana Avenue, will be giving free rides around the downtown area from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

From 11 a.m.-3 p.m., children of all ages are invited to “Touch a Truck.” Children can come and explore vehicles from police cars, fire trucks, and tractors.

There will be crafts for kids to make and take on Illinois Avenue from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and of course, the “man in red” – Santa accompanied by Mrs. Claus – will be coming to town and will be listening to children’s wishes in his house on Illinois Avenue from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Parents are encouraged to bring a camera and take holiday photos of the children at the



Santa and Mrs. Claus, along with this year’s Mendota Sweet Corn Festival mini-queen Nova Marez and mini-king Graham Phillips are anxious for the arrival of Saturday, Dec. 3 when “A Mendota Christmas” is held in downtown Mendota. Lots of holiday-related activities will take place during the day, including the return of Santa Claus to hear Christmas wishes from all of the children. (Reporter photo)

various events.

Free hot chocolate and hot dogs will be provided by the Mendota Lions Club from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Boy Scout Wreath Sales will take place from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and the Northbrook Grade School band will be performing at 10:30 a.m.

Also, Taco Guzman will be selling tacos from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Cows Coffee will be selling hot beverages from 10:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. and Taco Madre will be selling food from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Local clubs and organizations will be part of Mrs. Santa’s Cookie Sales and

will be selling their holiday cookies, candies, breads, and pecans in the bank lobbies until noon.

Admission to all events is free, but the Chamber will be collecting free-will

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Dist. 280 Board reviews proposed 2022 tax levy

State report card shows good marks

MENDOTA – The Mendota High School District 280 Board of Education reviewed the 2022 proposed tax levy and evaluated statistics from the school’s State Report Card at its Nov. 21 regular meeting.

The district is asking for a levy of \$6,082,480 at a rate of \$2.1963. Those figures are 10.97 percent higher than the 2021 tax levy. According to Superintendent Jeff Prusator, the tax rate is staying the same, but the district’s extension is going up by more than \$500,000 mostly because the district is capturing all of its tax money that previously went into the TIF I fund, which has expired. Prusator added that he is estimating the levy will be \$6,033,864 at a tax rate of \$2.1998, a 10.08 percent increase from last year.

District 280 will hold a Truth in Taxation hearing at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19. The hearing is required because the extension is more than 5 percent from the previous year.

In other items from the Superintendent’s Report, the board approved the health insurance renewal, which decreased by approximately 1 percent for the coming year. “We had the best renewal rate of any district that our broker represents,” stated Prusator.

Prusator said the FY22 audit went well, with all fund balances stable and the district in good financial shape.

The board unanimously approved an intergovernmental agreement with the city of Mendota for the new 2022 Mendota TIF District.

“I appreciate the cooperation of the mayor and city council in working with Mendota High School to come up with an agreement that works for MHS while at the same time enabling the city to create opportunities for economic, commercial and industrial growth,” stated Prusator.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Principal Denise Aughenbaugh shared the 2022 Mendota High School Report Card issued each year by the State of Illinois. For the first time since 2019, the Illinois State Board of Education assigned the Annual Summative Designations to schools and districts. Mendota High School has been issued the rating of Commendable. There are four summative ratings: Exemplary, Commendable, Targeted and Comprehensive.

“The good news is that we are not required for any targeted assistance from the state or improvement requirements,” said Aughenbaugh.

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Council OKs new TIF District

Mendota Police Department promotes patrolman to sergeant

By KIP CHEEK

Staff writer

MENDOTA – The Mendota City Council took the necessary steps to for a new TIF District in the city during its Nov. 21 regular meeting.

The council approved three ordinances that forms the 2022 Mendota TIF – an ordinance for the redevelopment plan for 2022 TIF; an ordinance designating the redevelopment area of the 2022 TIF; and an ordinance adopting the 2022 Tax Increment Financing District. In a related ordinance, the council adopted an intergovernmental agreement with Mendota High School.

The Mendota 2022 TIF District was formed to stimulate commercial, industrial/manufacturing and residential development within the city. The intent of the redevelopment plan is to promote and protect the health, safety, morals and welfare of the public, address blighted conditions in the proposed area and institute conservation measures so as to remove and alleviate adverse conditions, encourage private investment, develop business and real estate projects to increase employment and enhance the tax

base of the taxing districts by undertaking public and private redevelopment projects within a designated area.

The overall area consists of 515 vacant and improved properties, 90.5 percent of which qualify as a combination of “blighted” and “conservation” areas, as defined in the TIF Act. The redevelopment project area on the whole has not been subject to growth and development through investment by private enterprise and would not reasonably be anticipated to be developed without the use of tax increment financing.

The city intends to use the Mendota 2022 TIF District to redevelop property that is currently underutilized for commercial space, commercial/ retail businesses, light manufacturing/industrial purposes, residential development and tourism-related activities to increase population, improve employment opportunities, expand and diversify the local real estate tax base, manage growth and increase the overall quality of life for its residents.

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Chief Greg Kellen, left, congratulates Zachary Urbanski upon his promotion to the rank of sergeant with the Mendota Police Department. (Reporter photo)

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LOCAL AND AREA

Illinois opening mortgage relief program for eligible homeowners

CHICAGO – The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) announced it is reopening a mortgage assistance program designed to assist homeowners financially impacted by the pandemic on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022. The Illinois Homeowner Assistance Fund (ILHAF) provides up to \$30,000 in mortgage assistance to eligible homeowners — paid directly to the servicer, taxing body or other approved entity — while homeowners work to regain their financial footing. Whether homeowners have a mortgage, a reverse mortgage, or are mortgage-free, the program can fund past due housing payments and up to three months of prospective mortgage payments.

The program is free and funds do not need to be repaid. Application, program information and updates can be found at illinoishousinghelp.org. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2023.

“No Illinois should have to choose between paying their mortgage and putting food on the table,” said Governor JB Pritzker. “That’s why we established the Illinois Homeowner Assistance Fund to provide some much-needed relief to our residents who struggled throughout the pandemic. Today, I am proud to announce that we are reopening that very program so that no Illinois family goes without a roof over their heads. I encourage every eligible household to apply for ILHAF funding starting November 1, and I thank the entire Illinois Housing

Development Authority team for their leadership.”

“Having a roof over your head is one of the pillars of feeling safe and having a positive quality of life. The lingering economic impact of the pandemic is still being felt, especially when it comes to housing. That is why Illinois is so committed to helping residents stay in their homes,” said Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton. “This program does just that, and it will continue to be a resource because people who need housing assistance deserve to be seen and supported. Illinois sees them, and we will keep working to ensure no one has to experience the fear and stress of losing their home.”

To qualify for ILHAF assistance, Illinois homeowners must have experienced a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic after Jan. 21, 2020 (including a hardship that began before Jan. 21, 2020, but continued after that date). They also must currently own and occupy their home in Illinois as their primary residence, be at least 30 days late on their monthly housing payments and have a household income at or below 150% of the area median income.

“The state of Illinois is committed to ensuring that homeowners who are struggling due to this terrible pandemic can stay in their home,” said IHDA Executive Director Kristin Faust. “We designed the ILHAF program to ensure the most vulnerable households are prioritized in order to stave off foreclosure to ensure they are given

the opportunity to become current on their monthly housing expenses.”

Potential applicants must demonstrate they have either communicated with their mortgage provider about their inability to pay, or sought counseling with a HUD-approved counseling organization. Interested homeowners are strongly encouraged to attend an information session hosted by IHDA or one of our housing partners. The session schedule is posted online at illinoishousinghelp.org, for those without access to a computer or the internet, please contact the ILHAF hotline at 1-866-IL-HELP (866-454-3571).

Homeowners who received assistance in the previous round of ILHAF can apply for additional assistance this round. Please note, however, the maximum assistance that can be provided in total to applicants across both rounds is \$30,000.

ILHAF is funded through an appropriation in the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2), which was signed into law in March 2021. The \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus relief designed to speed up recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic included \$9.96 billion allocated for state territories, tribes and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. The state of Illinois was allocated \$386.9 million, which was appropriated to IHDA by the Illinois General Assembly (P.A. 102-0017).

For more information and updates on the program, please visit illinoishousinghelp.org.



Blackstone Pizza Lunch

Blackstone School recently had its Principal’s Pizza Lunch. Attending the lunch, front row, left to right, are Cainan Sellers, Jayden Woods, Stella Rosales and Lainey Ramer. Back row, Jax Topolewski, Piper Spitz, Hannah Hackerson, Brielle Scudder-Taylor and Aria Knowlton. Not pictured: Greyson Rhine and Rebecca Hillaker. (Photo contributed)

“Queens of Christmas” brings holiday cheer to Stage 212

LaSALLE – Stage 212 will be getting into the holiday spirit when it hosts “Aurora & JJ’s Queens of Christmas,” an evening of drag, drinks and Yuletide mayhem sure to make spirits bright, on Friday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the theater, 700 First St., LaSalle.

The show features home-

grown (Stage 212) drag queens, as well as drag talent from Chicago and Peoria – all of them campy, sassy and hilarious. Proceeds from the show will benefit Stage 212’s lighting upgrade project.

Tickets for “Aurora & JJ’s Queens of Christmas” are currently on sale to the general public for \$25 each

and may be purchased online only by visiting stage212.org. A limited number of tables of four will also be available on stage for a cost of \$200 (which includes a complimentary bottle of wine). “Aurora & JJ’s Queens of Christmas” contains adult content and is not recommended for viewing by children.

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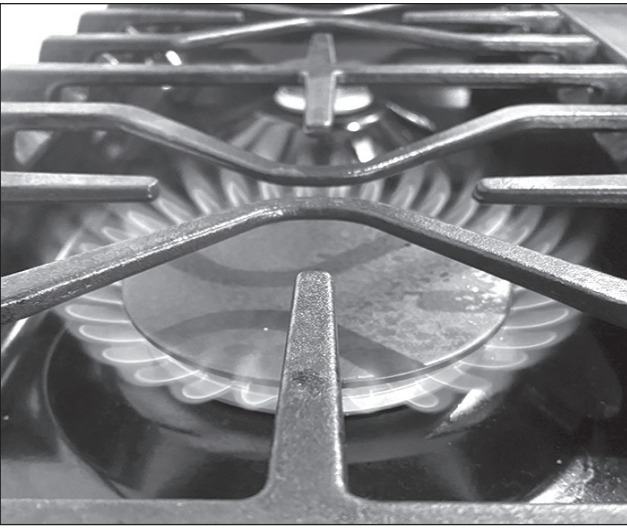
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LOCAL AND AREA



Energy prices continue to drive inflation in Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Inflation continues to be a burden on Illinois families and a major contributor to rising costs are energy prices.

The Citizens Utility Board reports natural gas prices have nearly tripled in the past two years, and gas futures recently hit a 14-year high.

A 2013 law passed by the Illinois General Assembly allows major gas utilities to add a Qualified Infrastructure Plant, or QIP, fee to bills. It covers certain costs associated with replacing natural gas pipes and other work on the utilities' gas delivery system. Under the law, the surcharge is slated to sunset on Dec. 31, 2023.

Abe Scarr, Illinois director of the advocacy nonprofit Public Interest Research Group (PIRG), said Illinoisans are picking up the tab for wasteful spending by utility companies.

"It is pretty evident that Nicor, Peoples Gas and Ameren Illinois have all been spending more than they need to and not to provide better service to customers but to jack up their profits," Scarr said.

Scarr notes that Nicor Gas has raised delivery rates by 77% in just four years, and the average Peoples Gas customer in Chicago is paying roughly \$15 more per month as a result of the QIP surcharge.

Currently with the surcharge in place, a company can begin collecting costs before having to justify the rate increase to regulators.

A Nicor spokesman said spending money on improvements is necessary to prepare for times of need, such as an extended period of time of cold weather, like the Polar Vortex of 2019.

According to Illinois PIRG, another dark cloud on the horizon is that gas utilities have not put as much in storage as in typical years. Utilities in the Midwest have 8% less gas in storage than they have on average over the past five years. Utilities usually purchase gas for storage when prices dip in the summer. Weather cools down in autumn, when they take out of storage in winter months when prices are the highest. If Illinois experiences a colder than normal winter, prices most likely will spike.

LaSalle Public Library, NASA show you how to celebrate the holidays in outer space Dec. 6

LaSALLE – The LaSalle Public Library will virtually host NASA Solar System Ambassador James Joel Knapper for a presentation about celebrating the holidays in outer space on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m.

Ever wonder what astronauts do during the holidays? While they may not have a turkey to carve, many of the holiday traditions exist. In this virtual program, Knapper will talk about how holidays are celebrated, and will explore the ways in which astronauts bring a little taste of home with them to enjoy in zero gravity.

Knapper has been hooked on NASA and space exploration since the seventh grade. He earned a Bachelor of Science in English Education from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Through the years, he has never lost his interest in the space program and continues to learn more each day.

This program is free, open to the public, and will be presented via Zoom. Registration is required. Register - <https://bit.ly/3tvM3y4>. For more information, please contact the LaSalle Public Library at 815-223-2341.

"Gift of Reading – Holiday Gift Book Giveaway" taking place in LaSalle

LaSALLE – The LaSalle Public Library invites families to celebrate the holiday season with the Library's "Gift of Reading – Holiday Gift Book Giveaway Event" on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Youth of all ages will receive a gift book, a 3D printed snowman ornament, and a pair of age-appropriate gloves, generously donated by Johnson Oil Company. Youth will also receive a laser-cut and engraved wood holiday ornament created on the Library's Glowforge that can be left as is or decorated using markers.

A professional photo backdrop will be available for families to capture wonderful photos. The Children's Room will remain

open during the event for families to browse the Library's extensive holiday collection. Staff will be reading and sharing favorite holiday stories at 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the Children's Room. Youth will have the opportunity to play "I Spy – Gingerbread Kids," a just-for-fun activity during the event.

The event is free and open to the public. Free masks are available at the desk, including youth sizes. All giveaway items are while supplies last. If you need more information or have questions, please call the Library at 815-223-2341. The LaSalle Public Library is located at 305 Marquette, LaSalle and is ADA compliant and welcoming.

EPA invites 5th & 6th grade students, high schoolers to compete in 2023 Illinois Poster, Poetry, and Prose contest

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is inviting fifth and sixth grade writers and artists from around Illinois to participate in this year's Poster, Poetry, and Prose Contest. The contest theme for the 2023 awards is "Environmental Justice: A Healthy Environment for All!" focusing on understanding environmental justice and how it relates to healthy communities.

In addition to the annual contest for fifth and sixth grade students, Illinois EPA has launched its first ever High School Poster, Poetry, and Essay Contest. The theme for the 2023 high school program is "Environmental Justice: A Healthy Community for All – Uplifting Community Voices!" focusing on understanding the need for environmental justice and why voices from overburdened communities are vital to the development, imple-

mentation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

"Illinois EPA has had tremendous response to this program for the past 35 years, and we are excited to add a new contest for high school students," said Illinois EPA Director John Kim. "Expanding the program seems like a natural fit as we see more and more high school students with a great interest in the environment and taking steps to protect it. We look forward to seeing the great works that will be developed from the very important topic of Environmental Justice."

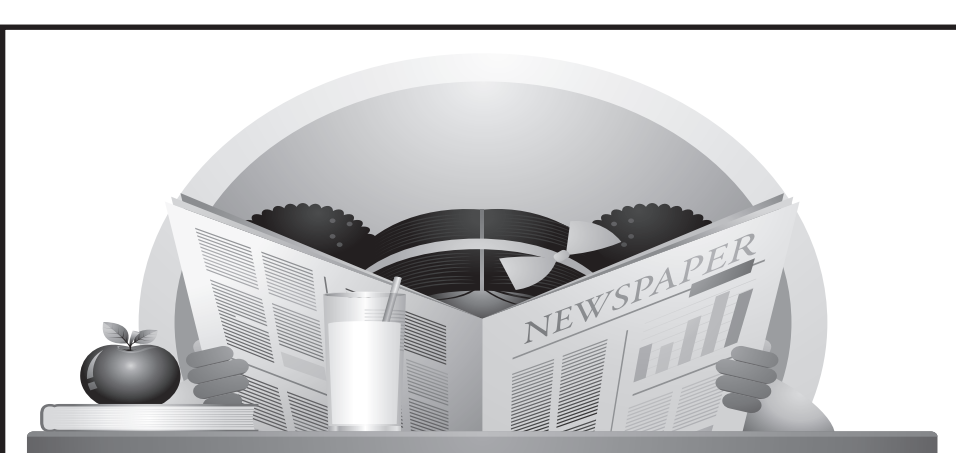
Educators are encouraged to introduce Environmental Justice, what it is, how some communities are disproportionately impacted by pollution, and why it is important that their voices are heard. Informational resources have been shared by the Illinois EPA on the contest pages. Students are then

asked to create posters or written works for the contests related to the theme's focus. Teachers may then display the submissions for voting and submit final entries to the Illinois EPA for further judging. Teachers may submit up to eight entries per school to the Illinois EPA by Feb. 1, 2023. Awards for both programs will be announced in April 2023.

Additional information for elementary students can be found at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/education/contest/elementary/Pages/default.aspx>.

Information for the High School Contest can be found at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/education/contest/high-school/Pages/default.aspx>.

Other questions can be directed to Kristi Morris, Environmental Education Coordinator for the Illinois EPA, at 217-558-7198, or by email at Kristi.Morris@illinois.gov.



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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Gary D. McLaughlin

OAK PARK HEIGHTS, Minn. – Gary Dee McLaughlin, 81, of Oak Park Heights, Minn., passed away on Nov. 20, 2022, in Oak Park Heights, surrounded by the love of his family.

Arrangements are being handled by Bradshaw Funeral & Cremation Services in Stillwater, MN. Interment will be private.

He was born on Sept. 15, 1941, in Mendota, to Dee and Darlene (Etz-bach) McLaughlin. He was raised in Paw Paw, as was his wife of 55 years, Jacqueline (Jacki) Wheeler. They were married on June 22, 1963 and spent 55 years together until Jacki's passing in 2019. They lived in Sycamore, where they raised their family until moving to Oak Park Heights, Minn., in 2018.

He is survived by his three daughters and sons-in-law, Michelle and Jim Bohlig, of Lake Elmo, Minn., Gay Lynn and Tim Wons of Naperville, and Megan and Tom Petit, North Myrtle Beach, S.C.; eight grandchildren, McKenzie and Matthew Bohlig, Lauren, Lindsay, Ryan and Alex Wons, Baylie and Nate Petit.

Gary managed Miller News Agency in DeKalb for many years where employees became like family. He also worked for the Illinois Toll Authority for 20 years. After his retirement, he worked at American National Bank in Sycamore.

He enjoyed spending time with his family at the McCompound on Lake Camelot in Nekoosa, Wis., and a month during the winter with Jacki in Gulf Shores, Ala. He also enjoyed reading, walks with his dog Snickers and was a member of People's Congregational Church in Bayport, Minn., where he served on the finance committee. His tough exterior could hide his soft inside, and if he gave you a hard time it meant he liked you.

If you would like to donate in his memory, please consider Stillwater Minn. Library at stillwaterlibrary.org or Health Partners Hospice of Bloomington, Minn., at healthpartners.com.

James L. Sloan

MENDOTA – James L. Sloan, 86, of Mendota, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022 at Heritage Health, Mendota.

Services will be Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Rev. Jeffrey Green officiating. Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota with military honors by Mendota VFW Post 4079. Visitation will be Wednesday from 10-11:30 a.m. in the funeral home.

Jim was born March 15, 1936 in Mendota, the oldest of three sons to Joseph Tod and Edith Edna (Becket) Sloan. He married Nancy Kratz, who preceded him in death in 1986. He married Marlene Knowlton Inness on Feb. 3, 1989.

Jim is survived by his wife Marlene of Mendota; three sons, Jeff (Julie) Sloan of Peru, Larry (Wendy) Sloan of Grand Forks, Minn., and Steve (Sara) Sloan of Marathon, Fla.; 17 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Roland Sloan and Ralph Sloan, and his granddaughter Candice.

Jim was a 1954 graduate of Mendota High School. He joined the United States Army in 1954 serving in the Special Weapons Division until December 1956. Jim began his electrical career in 1960 and was the owner-operator of Sloan Electric until his retirement in March of 2022. In his free time, he enjoyed piloting small planes after getting his license in 1979. He was also a member of Mendota Elks Lodge in the past.

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



Claudette E. Magnoni

OGLESBY – Claudette E. (Pierson) Magnoni, 85, of Oglesby, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2022, at the Ottawa Pavilion.

Visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, at the Prey-Mueller Funeral Home, Oglesby followed by a memorial service at 7 p.m. at the funeral home with Rev. Paul Carlson, pastor of Holy Family Catholic Church, Oglesby officiating. Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 2, 2022, at Restland Cemetery, Mendota.

Claudette was born Aug. 1, 1937, in Mendota to Claude and Marion (Binge) Pierson. Shortly after her graduation from Mendota High School, she married and raised three children.

Claudette is survived by her children, Ronald Magnoni Jr. of Oglesby, Mark (Lori) Magnoni of Des Plaines, and Julie (Michael) Falk of Shorewood, Minn.; grandchildren, Brittany (Jay) Silverness, Ryan (Caitlin) Magnoni, Joshua (Madison) Falk, Audrey Magnoni, Sarah Magnoni, and Tyler (Nicole) Falk; three great-grandchildren, Baylor Mae Falk, Breccan Falk, and Lucan Falk; and many dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She spent 22 years at R. R. Donnelly (Wayside Press) as a customer service specialist/manager until taking early retirement in 1998. She was a devoted Chicago Cubs fan and loved watching every game on TV or in person when she could make the trip. She loved others more than herself; her laugh was infectious and you always knew when Claudette was having fun. The true joy of her recent years was the bar she purchased and ran in Oglesby, called "Claudette's." But what gave her more joy than the bar, were the people who walked in. She thanks all her customers and friends for the support and love they gave over the 22+ years of ownership. Cheers!

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Holy Family Catholic Church, Oglesby.

The online guestbook may be viewed and remembrances shared at www.MuellerFH.com.

John G. Wenzel

KNOXVILLE – John G. Wenzel, 67, of Knoxville, passed away Nov. 20, 2022 at OSF St. Clare Medical Center, Princeton.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022 at 11 a.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Rev. Jeff Schlesinger officiating. Burial will be in Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation will be Monday from 5-7 p.m. in the funeral home and one hour prior to services. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date in Knoxville.

John was born Jan. 11, 1955 in Fort Ord, Calif., to Dale and Evelyn (Rochowski) Wenzel. He married Wendy Swope on Dec. 27, 1975 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Compton.

John is survived by his wife Wendy of Knoxville; his daughter Stacy Wenzel of Bloomington; his two sons, Matt (April) Wenzel of Washington and Paul Wenzel of Peoria; his parents, Dale and Evelyn Wenzel of Van Orin; his mother-in-law, Elaine Swope of Compton; three brothers, Guy (Sue) Wenzel of LaMoille, Dale Wenzel of Van Orin and Nate (Robyn) Wenzel of Normal; five sisters, Lynn (Randy) Perkins of Wadsworth, Deb (Bruce) Bartels of Waynesville, Pam Hiller of Normal, Andrea (Paul) Couillard of Normal and Kim (Darin) Croegaert of Lindenhurst; and two grandchildren, Savannah Wenzel and Kaden Wenzel.

He was preceded in death by his brother-in-law Gary Hiller and his father-in-law Elroy Swope.

John was a 1973 graduate of LaMoille High School. He attended Illinois State University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Education in 1977 and then a Master of Science in Education. He was a science teacher at Knoxville Junior High and coached several different sports there and Knoxville High School. He also assisted in running the family farm after his retirement. He enjoyed golfing and was a member of the Sons of American Legion.

Memorials may be directed to the OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois. Online condolences may be left at www.merriyth.com.



Donald E. Norton

CHICAGO – Donald E. Norton, 91, of Chicago, a longtime Earlville resident, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at the Terraces skilled nursing facility in Chicago.

A funeral mass will be held at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022, at St. Theresa of Avila Catholic Church, 221 W. Union St, Earlville, with Father Jeff Windy officiating. Visitation will also be at the church, preceding the funeral mass, from 10 a.m. to noon. Burial will follow the funeral mass at St. Theresa cemetery. A luncheon will then follow at the St. Theresa parish hall and all are invited to attend.

Don was born on Dec. 9, 1930, on Stilson Street in Earlville, the eighth of George and Julia Norton's 13 children. He graduated from Earlville High School in 1948 and then attended Bradley University in Peoria for a semester, intending to major in Engineering. When he learned that math "wasn't my thing", he left college and went to work, driving trucks and working on road and construction crews.

He is survived by his wife (of over 60 years) Karen; his sons, George William and Matthew (Christine); his grandchildren, Sophia, Charles, and Gabriel Norton; his sisters, Julie Burke and Barb Wishall, and over 40 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his beloved son Michael, his parents, his sisters Cathryne Frame, Marjorie Brosnan, Mary Lou Cahill, and Dorothy Norton, and his brothers George (Bill), Leonard, John (Jack), James, Charles, and Richard Norton.

Like all his brothers and brothers-in-law, he served his country in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953. Don often remarked how fortunate he was, during the Korean War, to be stationed with the Third Armored Division in Bamberg, Germany. There, he served as a tank mechanic (which he admitted he was not good at) and later company clerk (which he was good at).

After his service, Don went back to college, this time in pursuit of a law degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Between G.I. bill benefits and his job as a waiter at the boarding house in which he lived, Don paid his way through his undergraduate studies and law school, graduating as President of his law school class in 1958. From there, Don was off to Chicago, taking a staff attorney position with Chicago Title Insurance Company.

While living in Chicago, he had the good sense to go on a blind date (set up by his sister Barb) with hospital secretary and part-time model Karen McCormick, another La Salle County "transplant" living in Chicago. Karen was the love of Don's life. They moved back to LaSalle County and, on Oct. 6, 1962, were married at Karen's home parish, St. Mary's Church in Grand Ridge. In less than two years, Don went from a bachelor lawyer to a married father of three, as he and Karen welcomed their sons George (Bill) and twins Matthew and Michael. Don was an Assistant State's Attorney in LaSalle County and also opened his own law practice in his hometown of Earlville, becoming a trusted advisor to his many friends and clients.

In 1980, Don was sworn in as an Associate Circuit Court Judge for the 13th Judicial Circuit, covering LaSalle, Bureau, and Grundy counties. He was respected by his judicial colleagues, the courthouse bailiffs, and the attorneys who practiced before him as a thorough, fair, and disciplined judge.

Don retired in 1991 and he and Karen enjoyed their retirement, wintering in Longboat Key, Fla., and visiting their children and grandchildren. Don and Karen were inseparable and loved each other deeply. In 2014, over 50 years after they met there, Don and Karen moved from Earlville back to Chicago to be closer to their children and grandchildren. Don was smart, witty, honest, hard-working, dapper, kind, generous, and humble. And more than anything, he loved to share with his family a long, great meal at a fabulous restaurant – and he always insisted on paying. He will be greatly missed.

Don was a member of the Earlville Lions Club and the Mendota Elks Club and was a lector at St. Theresa of Avila Church for many years.

For more information or to sign the online guest book please go to www.EighnerFuneralHomes.com.



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A5 & A8.

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NOTICE

The annual meeting of the St. Paul's Evangelical Cemetery Association on Old Chicago Road will be held at Florence Buettner residence at 1665 William Way in Mendota on Dec. 5, 2022, at 1 p.m. All people interested in upkeep of cemetery are invited to attend.

Secretary,
David Costello

See the latest obituaries at
www.mendotareporter.com

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LOCAL NEWS/OBITUARIES

Christmas

Continued from Page A1

donations to benefit the Mendota Operation Elf Action program, which provides Christmas gifts to children ages 1-13, whose families need assistance this Holiday season.

Chamber Ambassadors will be on hand in the Information Booth for the kids to pick up their Reindeer to complete, selling 50/50 tickets and ornaments. Mendota Gift Certificates will also be available.

Shoppers are reminded that Mendota's Shop Local Promotion kicks off Saturday, Nov. 19 and will continue through Dec. 21 at participating businesses. During this time, shoppers will receive a sticker for every \$10 they spend in a participating merchant's business. Customers can place the stickers on cards, obtained at the participating business or at the Chamber office. When your cards are full, and contain at least five participating businesses, you can turn them in to the Chamber office for a chance to win valuable prizes. Don't forget to pick up your free sticker at the Mendota Christmas downtown on Dec. 3.

In conjunction with "A Mendota Christmas," shoppers will receive "double stickers" for every \$10 they spend on that special day. You can pick up a free "shop local sticker" to help complete your card at the booth located on Illinois Avenue.

Mendota Shop Local Promotion will be 12 days of giving and will start on Dec. 9 with prizes given away every day until Dec. 21 with the Grand Prize being announced on Dec. 22. All cards will be put back in for the grand prize drawing, so you are encouraged to complete your cards early. Shoppers can turn in as many cards as they wish by the deadline, Dec. 21, at 4 p.m.

Council

Continued from Page A1

ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Kyle Kim turned the floor over to Police Chief Greg Kellen, who then introduced Zachary Urbanski, who took the oath of office as a new sergeant with the Mendota Police Department. Urbanski has been a patrolman with the department since 2019. He will be the lead officer during the midnight shift.

Alderman Jim Fitzpatrick issued a reminder to residents to unhook their garden hose from the outside faucet to prevent freezing of the water line.

OTHER ITEMS

Mayor David Boelk issued a thank you to the Mendota Lions Club for the donation of several basketball hoops to be installed at various parks.

Chief Kellen said there are two police applicants currently in testing.

Kellen also thanked Boelk Truck Lines for use of their equipment in transporting pallets of Christmas goodness on behalf of United Way to distribute to community members in need.

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

Dist. 280

Continued from Page A1

Report Card summary: graduation rate-87%; student mobility-10%; FY22 Evidence-Based Funding-70% of adequacy; chronic absenteeism-22% (state avg. 29.8%); teacher retention-92%; average class size-18.8 (state avg. 20); enrollment-503; low income-38%; individualized education program-17%; student attendance-93.4%; 9th grade on track-83.6% (state avg. 86.6%). (Illinois State Scholars)

Aughenbaugh announced that eight seniors received Illinois State Scholar honors based on their SAT score and GPA. They are William Bentley, Melaina Bierwirth, Isabelle Escatel, Alexis Finley, Abigail Kunz, Neal Linden, Carlos Olivas and Avery Pierce. (DAR, SAR)

The principal also informed the board that Escatel is the recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) award and Kunz is the recipient of the Sons of the American

Revolution (SAR) award.

Aughenbaugh thanked the Honors American Literature and U.S. History students for researching and providing a Veterans Day program, and also the MHS Band for playing at the city's Veterans Day program on Nov. 11.

Upcoming events and dates are as follows: Dec. 10-11 Madrigal Dinner; Dec. 12 band concert; Dec. 14-16 final exams.

The next regular meeting of the District 280 Board will be Monday, Dec. 12 at 6 p.m.

IVCC Wind Ensemble plans free concert

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Wind Ensemble will offer a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8 in the Dr. Mary Margaret Weeg Cultural Centre.

The performance will include the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, John Cheetham, Antonin Dvorak, Joseph Willcox Jenkins, Alfred Reed, and Camille Saint-Saens.

Selections include "Chorale Prelude on

"Sleepers, Wake," "A Christmas Greeting," "Slavonic Dance No. 4," "American Overture for Band," "Russian Christmas Music," and "Bacchanale."

Under the direction of conductor Phil Whaley, the ensemble includes IVCC students, local and regional music educators and community members dedicated to the promotion of quality wind and percussion music.

Area author to discuss book at IVCC

OGLESBY – LaSalle native and author James Janko will discuss his most recent book, "What We Don't Talk About," at noon Wednesday, Dec. 7 in CTC124-125 at Illinois Valley Community College.



Janko

The event in the Ralph Scriba Conference Center is free and open to the public.

Janko is the author of two award-winning novels, "Buffalo Boy and Geronimo" and "The Clubhouse Thief." His short stories have been published in The Sun, Massachusetts Review, and Eureka Literary Magazine, among others.

His story, "Fallujah in a Mirror," won the Jeff Sharlet Memorial Award and was published by The Iowa Review. "What We Don't Talk About" will be published in

late November by the University of Wisconsin Press.

The novel is set in fictional Orville, Ill., a bucolic, charming, and almost Norman Rockwell-esque — if you're white. But like many midwestern cities in the 1960s, it is a "sundown" town — a place where Black Americans are prohibited from entering or remaining after dark.

The town's most adventurous woman, Cassie Zeul, is an outcast because she has no husband and takes an occasional lover. Her son, Gus, guided by Sister Damien, aspires to be a priest, but he is increasingly overwhelmed by his infatuation with Pat Lemkey — who is herself drawn to Jenny Biel, considered by many to be the most beautiful girl in town.

Gus's best friend, Fenza Ryzchik Jr., a somewhat notorious bully desperate for his father's attention, hates "colored people," doesn't

think he knows any, and is certain he can convince Jenny to marry him one day — without realizing that her devout mother has been passing for white her entire life.

Events come to a head when a visiting nun from the South brings an African American friend with her to Midnight Mass one Christmas Eve.

The dreams and desires of these characters collide and intersect as they navigate life and coming of age in the rural Midwest.

In Janko's masterful hands, the darkness — of prejudice, privilege, and power — that they don't even recognize threatens to overwhelm their lives and their plans for the future. The novel forces us, as well as its characters, to acknowledge the cost of hiding our true selves, and of judging others based on the color of their skin or the longing of their hearts.

Reception set for IVCC instructor

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College

will host a reception for retired college English instructor Ed Krolak at noon Tuesday, Dec. 6 in Jacobs Library's Active Learning



Krolak

Space.

Krolak will be donating copies of his book, "Lilies of the Valley," a compilation of his newspaper columns and essays. The event will include IVCC English faculty reading portions of the book.

Krolak's 40-year teaching career included assignments at Lostant and LaSalle-Peru Township high schools, LPO Junior College and IVCC.

OBITUARIES

Roger A. Carr

TROY GROVE – Roger A. Carr, 75, of Troy Grove, passed away Friday, Nov. 25, 2022, at Heritage Health, Mendota surrounded by his family.

Funeral services will be Friday, Dec. 2 at noon at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Vicar Anthony Windau officiating. Cremation rites will be accorded after the funeral and private burial will be at Troy Grove Cemetery at a later date. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until time of services.

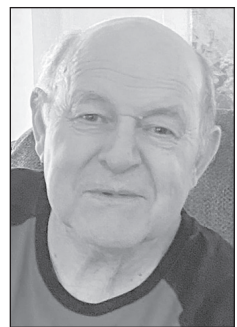
Roger was born Oct. 14, 1947, in Mendota to Kenneth and Helen (Piller) Carr. He married Joanne Underwood on Aug. 24, 1969 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota.

Roger is survived by his wife of 53 years Joanne Carr; three children, Julie (Frankie) Ponder, Jimmy (Michelle) Carr and Jodi (Bob) Arteaga; five grandchildren, Casey and Rylee Ponder, Bobby and Gabe Arteaga and Raigan Carr; sister Carolyn Hartt; brother Ronnie (Marsha) Carr; his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, David and Robin Underwood and Mike and Linda Fisher.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his father and mother-in-law, Francis and Helen Rich, and his brothers-in-law Alan Rich and John Hartt.

Roger graduated from Mendota High School in 1966. He worked at Triumph CO-OP and then Moline Consumers for over 30 years. He was a volunteer for the Triumph Fire Department and past Fire Chief for several years. He was a Chicago Bears fan. He enjoyed hunting and gardening.

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



Cameron P. Given

MENDOTA – Cameron Patrick Given, 19, of Mendota, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

Memorial services will be held Friday, Dec. 2, 2022 at 11 a.m. at the Victory Baptist Church, Mendota with Rev. Jay Miller officiating. Burial will follow at Troy Grove Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until time of services in the church. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Cameron was born July 29, 2003 in Spring Valley to Traci Given and Patrick Legoo.

He is survived by his father Patrick Legoo of Mendota; his brother Dylan Given of Mendota; his sister Colleen (Kurtis) Glenzinski of Morton; two aunts Candi Given and Trina Given of Troy Grove; and several aunts and uncles.

He was preceded in death by his mother Traci Given on Oct. 2, 2021, his grandparents Ronald and Beverly (Warnock) Given and Lawrence Legoo and Judith Peterson, and his uncle Larry Legoo.

Cameron attended Mendota High School and he loved to draw.

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



DEATH NOTICES

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

DIRECTORY

Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022
4:30 - 7pm
St. John's Lutheran Church
607 10th Ave., Mendota

Freewill offering at the door.

Dine-in Menu: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, lettuce salad, breadstick, homemade desserts & beverage. Carry-outs available **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

A **Silent Auction** of beautiful Quilts made by the talented St. John's Quilting Ladies will also take place during the dinner!

Join us in the Sanctuary at 7 pm for a vocal performance by the **MHS Madrigals**.

Sponsored by St. John's Youth. All proceeds benefit the 2023 High School Mission Trip to Altoona, PA and other Youth events.

11/6/2022

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OPINION



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

Social Security's impending bankruptcy doesn't resonate with voters, yet

By BRENTON SMITH
Heartland Institute

I am not a constitutional lawyer, but I see nearly zero chance that funding Social Security out of the general fund would be allowed for any significant length of time. It is at best a fool's errand to hold out hope that Congress will be able to float the program's imbalances out of the general fund.

This thought comes to mind because of the 2022 midterms and the inherent contradiction between the importance of Social Security and the weight that voters have placed on the program on Election Day despite two decades of continuous financial decline.

No group should be more interested in the prospects of the program than women who are over 50 years old. Yet, an AARP poll revealed that Social Security placed a distant fifth in voting priority in the 2022 midterm elections among people in this segment of the population.

At this point, a woman turning 77 today expects on average to outlive the system's ability to pay scheduled benefits. If that voter doesn't care, no one does.

The only explanation for the indifference to the program's ability to keep its promises that I can imagine is voters have reached the conclusion that Congress will simply never allow Social Security to fall into crisis.

Apparently, Americans have faith in politicians that would make the Pope covet.

To provide an example, one of my readers wrote to me, "And, as I pointed out, the general fund is already going to be on the hook for the SS shortfall, one way or the other." The reader reasons that no matter what happens, he will get paid. Hence, he has nearly zero interest in the prospects of the system.

It is a misplaced faith. The general fund is not on the hook, and likely never will be. Funding Social Security from the general fund would likely be deemed unconstitutional in court.

Yes, Social Security was determined to be constitutional in 1935 in *Helvering v. Davis*. That doesn't mean that a legislative change in the way that the program is financed would be exempt from judicial review.

Just because the law is called the Social Security Act does not grant the pieces and parts of the law a special status.

The Supreme Court is not interested in the wisdom of how the power is exercised. Rather it deals with deciding whether that power is granted by the Constitution to Congress. In the *Helvering* case, the Supreme Court held that "Congress may spend money in aid of the 'general welfare.'" Further, the Court held that the "concept of welfare is shaped by Congress, not the states."

The Court added a caveat that earns your attention: "The (definition of welfare) belongs to Congress, unless the choice is clearly wrong, a display of arbitrary power is not an exercise of judgment."

Here is the problem. Social Security is not universal nor equal. The highest payment goes to the man or woman who had the best job over the longest period. It is very difficult to explain taking money from the working poor to provide a stipend to the wealthy retiree particularly when many of our poorest seniors are not even eligible for benefits.

When the money for benefits comes from the general fund, someone is going to ask whether giving money to the idle rich is a sound way to aid the general welfare of the nation. The benefits formula works when the money comes from workers who are contributing to a plan that pays them a future benefit. It is very different when we take money that could be spent on other priorities.

Back in 1935, the Court indicated that it wasn't terribly interested in the wisdom of the benefits arrangement. According to the Court, the law was a well-researched solution to a well-established problem. In its decision, the Court cited congressional studies, presidential commissions, advisory councils, and extensive public hearings.

The Court ruled, "A great mass of evidence was brought together supporting the policy, which finds expression in the act."

Imagine if this standard were applied to an annual subsidy from the general fund. Funding would require a similar exercise of judgment demonstrating that Congress thoughtfully valued this expense against every other expense that money might have served. That is every year, where the reasoning is we are spending the money today because the politicians of the past didn't do their job. In the coming years, it would behoove voters of all ages to take this issue more seriously.

In 1935, the Supreme Court allowed Congress the power to provide a legislative solution to a well-documented problem that threatened a growing number of Americans. Today, the Court would be tasked with considering whether Congress should be given the power to deal with a very different problem: voters have not paid attention.

(Brenton Smith (think@heartland.org) is a policy advisor with The Heartland Institute.)



Gromann's at I-39 starts pumping – 1990

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from Nov. 29, 2000.)

By Jessica Nashold

It was 10 years ago, on Nov. 21, 1990, that the first tank of fuel was pumped at Gromann's I-39 Auto Truck Plaza. The new facility, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, was creating 14 to 16 new jobs. The only day it would be closed was Christmas day.

Buster's Family Restaurant was scheduled to open in December. The payroll at Buster's was expected to reach 75.

Ground was broken Nov. 17, 1990, for an 11-acre subdivision on the north edge of Mendota. Developers of the Brookside First Subdivision were John Lewis, Joe McConville and Brian Sprowls. Their LMS Properties had charge of Mendota's fourth Tax Increment Financed district. The subdivision was expected to create 26 affordable building lots. Its street, Diana Drive, ran south from 22nd Street, curved east and connected with Pine Avenue.

A destructive thunderstorm hit Mendota on Nov. 22, 1990, just as school was letting out at 3 p.m. Over on I-39, a truck lost control and flipped on its side, a half mile north of U.S. 34. The largest tree in Blackstone Park blew down. There were power outages in several neighborhoods as tree limbs put lines out of commission. The wind was accompanied by heavy rain, which flooded the intersection of Main and Burlington streets.

Luckily, the storm did not hit until after Mendota's Christmas Savings Days, Nov. 16-18, 1990. On Friday the 16th, the high school madrigal singers, accompanied by the MHS brass ensemble, presented a program of Christmas carols as the Tree of Hope was lighted in Veterans Park.

On Saturday the 17th, Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in town in an open carriage, after which Santa listened to children's wish lists at the Chamber of Commerce office. The Chamber office in 1990 was located at the corner of Main and Jefferson streets.

Free carriage rides were available in

Backtracks & Sidetracks

downtown Mendota between 1:30 and 4:30 on Saturday.

Starting at noon on Sunday, the traditional Christmas Walk stepped off, during which 36 Mendota businesses offered treats ranging from spiced cider to ethnic Christmas cookies and specialties.

The city of Mendota was coping with a low balance in the General Fund. It had slipped from a customary \$20,000-\$30,000 range to \$2,387.80. Big item expenditures of \$40,000 for right-of-way to the new Plano Molding plant and \$70,000 for a garbage compactor had drained the General Fund.

The Water & Sewer Fund would be drawn on to "bail it out."

It will be paid back at a future date.

A storm sewer on division street from First Avenue to Fifth Avenue was under construction. John Pohar & Sons of LaSalle had the contract on its bid of \$113,685.

A dinner recognizing Mendota Area Senior Services volunteers was held on Nov. 27, 1990. Vera Grinka was named top volunteer for the year with 174 ¼ hours of service. Grinka's principal contributions were in meal preparation and cleanup, work at the Amtrak station and serving as guard at the Tri-County Fair. She also helped manage Sunday card games.

Gary Campbell was elected president of the grade school board of education at its organization meeting. Also at this meeting, Reed Rydberg, art instructor, gave a presentation of middle school artwork. Carrie Stewart, a middle school student, who had designed a mural depicting school spirit, received board permission to have it painted and hung on the wall at Northbrook.

The Chamber of Commerce installed 14 trash receptacles in the business district. It was planned to add four more and attach planters to all 18 receptacles in the coming year.

Four Mendota 4-H members attended the organization meeting of a Wildlife Habitat Evaluation team at the LaSalle County Extension office. They were Michelle Ramer, Melinda Ramer, Justin Ganschow and Alyssa Rod. Additional members would be welcomed.

Margo Stouffer, manager of the Mendota Hi-Rise, invited The Mendota Reporter to tour the facility prior to an open house scheduled for Dec. 3, 1990. The six-story, 60-unit building for the elderly was now 18 years old and had been experiencing maintenance problems. Stouffer explained that maintenance decisions were made on a nationwide basis of "greatest need," putting Mendota in competition with older facilities elsewhere. Nevertheless, she was quick to state –

"I am proud of the building, proud to be its manager."

Work was going forward on the Plano Molding Co. plant, a 50,000-square foot building. Phalen Steel Construction Co., the builder, estimated completion by Jan. 31, 1991. Women's cosmetic cases, called "Caboodles," would be manufactured there.

The Optimist Club announced in November that it had secured a return concert by "Loenwolf" to be held Dec. 29, 1990, at the Civic Center from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. In its 1989 appearance, "Loenwolf" had attracted 620 paid admissions. Proceeds would be devoted to youth projects sponsored by the Optimist Club. Tickets were \$3 in advance or \$4 at the door. There would be a cash bar.

Minimum age of 21 is required.

Members of the Graves Public Library District board were concentrating on a possible referendum to finance an addition on the April ballot since the November referendum had failed by a narrow margin. Deadline for the April ballot was Jan. 31, 1991.

McCarthy's task may be the hardest job in Washington

By Rich Lowry

Kevin McCarthy may now have the hardest job in Washington.

Assuming that he becomes speaker of the House, which will require the near-unanimous support of his caucus and isn't necessarily a foregone conclusion, he's signing up for the most miserable experience of any congressional leader since John Boehner barely controlled a Republican House majority in the Obama years.

Boehner presided over a caucus infused with new tea party members who expected to do great things, when the leverage a congressional majority has over a president of the opposite party is inherently limited.

The mismatch between their hopes and their power led to continual frustration, which was taken out on Boehner. By the time he resigned, the Ohio Republican could be forgiven for wondering if his dog was going to turn against him.

Now, House Republicans will have a microscopic majority in a Washington still arrayed against them. It will be hard enough to pass anything consequential or controversial out of the House before it runs into a brick wall in the Democratic-controlled Senate. House Republicans presumably won't be able to get their handiwork within hailing distance of President Joe Biden's veto pen.

In light of this, the first priority for House Republicans should be tempering expectations. Their most important achievement has already occurred -- namely ensuring that Nancy Pelosi will no longer be speaker with all that that entails for Biden's agenda.

Making the most of their opportunity otherwise will require some realism, subtlety and creativity.

Deadline-driven fights loom over the debt limit and budget next year. Republicans will want to extract their pound of flesh but shouldn't overestimate their influence. They aren't going to reform entitlements or put the U.S. on a fundamentally different fiscal path in a dramatic, down-to-the wire confrontation over the debt limit or a possible government shutdown. Usually, the aggressors in such fights lose, and it'll be hard to maintain GOP unity with more cautious Republican senators hesitant to go down this path.

Republicans would be well-served to choose a few plausible policy objectives at the outset of these fights -- say, revoking the new Biden IRS agents -- rather than coming up with large, superficially attractive demands that inevitably have to be abandoned.

Then, there are the investigations. Here, Republicans don't have to worry about the balancing act involved in getting to 2018 votes. The House Oversight Committee can simply get busy. There are still pitfalls to avoid, though.

The Hunter Biden investigation obviously needs to focus on the public corruption and the question of the president's involvement more than Hunter's lurid personal life. Republicans should steer clear of any counterprogramming on January 6, especially given what the midterms showed about the political costs of any association with "Stop the Steal." And impeaching Biden without even a majority in the Senate would be an exercise in futility.

Otherwise, the field is wide open for probes that could be substantively important and politically useful, whether on the origins of COVID-19, how the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other government entities responded to the pandemic, the Afghan withdrawal, and government pressure on social media companies.

Finally, House Republicans should pass legislation, not in the hopes of getting any of it signed, but to show that the party has a solution-oriented agenda. This was an element of the party's message that was woefully lacking in the run-up to the midterms. They should pass bills to address inflation, support families, control the border, move toward a more merit-based legal immigration system, push back against the "woke" education bureaucracy, reduce college costs, and point in a more sensible direction on crime.

The party should demonstrate that it's pro-family and pro-law and order, while trying to sell itself to the middle again as serious and competent.

This will be no small task with a very narrow, fractious majority, but no one said Kevin McCarthy's job would be easy. Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*. (c) 2022 by King Features Synd., Inc.

LaSalle County Board

Curtis Faber, 1405 Lakeview Drive, Mendota538-2855
Joanne McNally, 905 Meadowview, Mendota538-7591

LOCAL AND AREA

Mendota PD investigating armed robbery

MENDOTA – The Mendota Police Department is investigating the report of an armed robbery that occurred at approximately 9:54 p.m. Nov. 22.

The reporting subject stated that while walking in the vicinity of Wisconsin Avenue and Chicago Street, a motor vehicle pulled up alongside him and the driver of the vehicle presented a handgun and demanded money from the subject. Upon the victim giving the gunman his money, the driver drove off. The Mendota Police Department is continuing its investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call the Mendota Police Department at 815-539-9331.

Men found deceased in residence

MENDOTA – Two Mendota men were found dead inside a residence on Nov. 22 after authorities received a report of two unresponsive males.

Mendota Police and Fire personnel were dispatched to the residence at 302 Ninth Ave. at approximately 12:28 p.m., at which time they found Austin P. Sessler, 24, 302 Ninth Ave., and Cameron P. Given, 19, 620 ½ Main St., deceased.

The Mendota Police Department is investigating the incident with the collaborative assistance of multiple criminal investigative services, including the LaSalle County Coroner's Office, the LaSalle County State's Attorney's Office and the Illinois State Police Crime Scene Services unit.

Sublette plans 'Christmas in the Village' on December 4; holiday contest

SUBLETTE – The Village of Sublette will ring in the holidays during its annual Christmas Walk, "Christmas in the Village," from 3 - 6 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 4.

A craft and vendor show will be held at 6 p.m. at the Ellice Dinges Center. There will be a large variety of vendors that can fulfill your holiday shopping needs.

New this year will be the Lighted Christmas Parade at 5:30 p.m. Cars, trucks, ATVs and tractors are welcome. Line-up is at Centennial Park.

Following the lighted parade, the official lighting of the village Christmas tree will be done by Santa Claus at 6 p.m.

Downtown Sublette businesses will be open for all your shopping and refreshment needs.

"Christmas in the Village" is always the highlight of the Christmas season in Sublette. Families are invited to come and enjoy a festive day.

Christmas Decorating Contest Planned

Area residents are invited to deck their home with the most TREEmendous decorations for the Sublette Christmas Decorating Contest. Sign up by Dec. 10 for a chance to win a prize. Judging will be Dec. 17. Sign-up sheets are available at Sublette General Store, Pioneer State Bank and the Post Office. Everyone is urged to light up the town for the Christmas season.



Kurt Bruno, Agent
1103 Main Street
Mendota, IL 61342
Bus: 815-539-3878
kurt.bruno.gtoz@statefarm.com
Se habla Español

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Online Only Auction

The Marion Hill Living Estate Online Auction

Soft Closing starts at 7:00pm on Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Pick up will be at: 1826 N 41st Rd, Leland, IL 60531

On Saturday December 10 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm CST

Auctioneers note: This is a lifelong collection of Mr. & Mrs. Hill of Leland Illinois. Please check this auction out it has something for everyone.

Items in auction: This is a huge auction which is just in time for Christmas. This auction has Muscle Trucks, Vintage 1971 Trillium Camper Trailer, 1981 CJ7N Jeep, Tools, Auto Parts, Vintage Glassware, Galaxy Glassware, Vintage and Antique Furniture, Fiesta Ware, Vintage Items, Pocket Knives and many more items.

Visit our website <https://advancedauction.com> for more information and to be able to register and bid on this auction. A **15% Buyers Premium** will be charged. All buyers must provide their own packing materials and someone to help carry and load their items. Titles will be held for the vehicles until payment is received. **Inspection will be on Tuesday December 6 by appointment only. Please call O.D. at 815-218-0705 to set up your appointment.**

Any questions or private showing please contact O.D. Holley at Advanced Auction & Appraisal at 815-218-0705.



FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION

11N751 Burlington Rd., Hampshire, IL 60140

Due to retiring from farming, the following farm equipment will be sold at Public Auction. Directions: 2 miles East of Burlington, IL. on Burlington Rd. Watch for signs.

Saturday, December 10, 2022

9:00 AM Lunch Available

*** Live & Online internet bidding beginning at 10:00 AM ***

Tractors-Combine-Heads

2004 Case-IH MX285, MFWD, 3748 hrs.PS, w/LHR; 1997 Case-IH 8940, MFWD, 3911 hrs., 18/4 PS trans; 1989 Case-IH 7110, 2WD, 6633 hrs. CAH, 18/4 PS trans; 1978 IH 1086, 2WD, 7126 hrs., CAH; 1967 IH 706, 2 WD., German diesel, 8606 hrs., open station.1998 Case-IH 2366 Combine, 2WD, sep. 3032, eng. 4419. Case-IH 1063 Corn Head, 6R-30". Case-IH 1020 Grain Platform, 20'.

Equipment

Case-IH 955 Cyclo Air Planter, 12R-30", front fold. Case-IH 3900 Disk, 26', 7 ½" spac. Case-IH 4300 Field Cultivator, 25'. DMI Ecolo-Tiger 530 Disk Ripper, 5 shank.; Brent 678 Grain Cart. Brent 670 Grain Cart; JD 400 Rotary Hoe, 30'; DMI 125 CFDF Crumbler, 28'; MC 180 SB Stalk Chopper, 15'; Top Air 1000 gal. sprayer, 60' booms; Glencoe 12R-30" Cultivator, hyd. fold; IH 720, 6-18" Plover; Lindsay 42' Drag Cart; Lindsay 26' Drag Cart; Harvest International H1062 auger, 10"x62' swing away hopper, pto; Farm King 8"x51' Auger, 3 phase, 10hp motor; Hutchinson 10"x61' Auger, pto; Hutchinson 8"x28' Auger, 3 phase 5hp motor; Meyer 18"x41' Elevator, pto, or electric motor; 150 gal Sprayer, 30' booms, 3pt. pto pump, hand wand; Blaster F&F Inc. fly sprayer, 3pt., pto; 1650 gal. poly water tank; JD end gate seeder; (1) set of 1000 lbs. weights, fits Case-IH MX285;rear wheel wts.; suitcase wts; bin sweep augers-9',11',14'; Livestock gates - 8', 10', 16'; auger hoppers; (7) IH split wts.; Livestock water tanks; Broyhill water tank heater; cement mixer; Hero New No. 2 fanning mill;

Trucks

1979 IH S1800 Grain Truck, MV-404, gas, 5 & 2 sp., 16' steel box w/hoist, roll tarp, 76,680 miles; 1975 IH Loadstar 1700 Grain Truck, MV-404, gas, 5 & 2 sp., 16' steel box w/dual hoist, 77,044 miles.

Glenn & Lorraine Lenschow: Owners

847-683-3716 or 847-507-3716

Auctioneers Note: Glenn & Lorraine took great care of their equipment. It has been well maintained and always stored inside. Please be prompt, 1 hayrack of misc. Loader available

Terms: Cash, check, Visa/MC, 4% convenience fee for credit card use. Number system will be used. Have proper ID. Not responsible for accidents or merchandise after sold. Statements made on sale day by auctioneers or owners take precedence over all printed matter. All items are sold as is where is.

Auctioneers: Mike Espe (630)-669-2667

Chris Wegener (815) 451-2820

Joel Prestegaard (815) 761-7426

Elburn, IL 60119 • 630.365.9838

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Community Calendar

DECEMBER 2022

DEC. 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22 & 29

EXERCISES

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
8 AM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 1 & 15

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.

DEC. 1

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.
Registration is encouraged.

DEC. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

POKENO

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
12 PM

Feik Parlor -
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

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.

DEC. 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23 & 30

BINGOCIZE

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
10 AM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
New program which combines
bingo & exercise. Our staff
member Laurie trained to lead
this activity.

DEC. 2

"BAKED POTATO BAR" IS BACK

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
11 AM - 1 PM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Lunch Price \$7.00 Includes,
potato choice of toppings,
dessert & drink. Tickets
available at the door.
No Advanced Tickets.
May dine in or carry out
available without drink. Join
us for 50/50 & Raffles.

DEC. 2, 9 & 16

BINGO

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 5, 12 & 19

DOMINOES

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM

Feik Senior Parlor – Mendota
Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 5

COMMUNITY BINGO

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
2 PM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 6, 13, 20 & 27

WII BOWLING

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
10:30 AM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 6

HOLIDAY CARDS

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
1 PM & 6 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Create holiday cards for your
friends and family! All of the
supplies will be provided. Bring
your creativity! Must Register.

DEC. 6

MICHIGAN RUMMY
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 6, 13, 20 & 27

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

DEC. 7

SHAKE RATTLE & READ "SNOWMAN"

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). Registration is
encouraged.

DEC. 7, 14, 21 & 28

STRENGTH & FITNESS WITH DENNIS

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
11 AM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
New program - Dennis is a
fitness & strengthening instructor
- very knowledgeable &
helpful, come join us.

DEC. 7

SMALL FRIES "SNOW!"

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
4 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages 3 years to kindergarten.
Registration is encouraged.

DEC. 13

"PLAYERS CHOICE" BOARD GAME

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 15

SHAKE RATTLE & READ "SNOWMAN"

(Repeat of December 7th)
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). Registration is
encouraged.

DEC. 17

"MRS. SANTA" BAKE SALE

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
9 AM - 12 PM

First State Bank Washington St.
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Anyone wishing to donate baked
goods for this event are welcome
& may call M.A.S.S. office.
Thank you - stop by bank & get
Christmas cookies etc.

DEC. 19

CHRISTMAS AT THE LIBRARY

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
6 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
All ages welcome. Join us for a
read-a-loud, craft and snack as
we celebrate CHRISTMAS!

DEC. 20 & 27

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

DEC. 20

LEFT, RIGHT, CENTER

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM

Feik Parlor -
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 20

CHRISTMAS DINNER POTLUCK

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
5:30 PM

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center

For more info call
(815) 539-7700

M.A.S.S. will provide meat &
potatoes. Please bring dish to
pass. Holiday entertainment will
be provided.

DEC. 20

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: "The Uncommon
Reader" by Alan Bennett.

DEC. 21

SHAKE RATTLE & READ "COOKIES"

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
11 AM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages birth - 2 (siblings welcome).
Registration is encouraged.

DEC. 21

4H AT THE LIBRARY WITH UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION "POPSICLE STICK ORNAMENT"

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
4 PM - 5 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages 8-18.
Registration is required.

DEC. 27

AFTERNOON MOVIE: "ELF" PG

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
1 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
All ages are invited; children 6
and under are required to
have an adult present.

DEC. 27

YAHTZEE

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM

Feik Senior Parlor – Mendota
Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

DEC. 28

WINTER BREAK LEGO CLUB

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
1 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Grades 1-8th. Registration is
encouraged.

DEC. 28

MOVIE: "THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER"

Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library & M.A.S.S.
3 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142 or (815) 539-7700
Snacks provided by M.A.S.S.

DEC. 29

SHAKE RATTLE & READ "COOKIES"

(Repeat of December 21st)
Sponsored by Graves-Hume
Public Library
6 PM

1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages birth - 2 (siblings welcome).
Registration is encouraged.

DEC. 30

SOCIAL NEWS/OBITUARIES

Blue Christmas Worship set for Dec. 21

MENDOTA — On the longest day of the year, everyone is invited to remember those for whom this year's Christmas might not be a celebration at an Ecumenical Blue Christmas Worship on Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Mendota. Whether it's because of a death or

a broken relationship or a disease that threatens to turn a family's life upside down, not every Christmas is always as joy-filled as it could be. If you have friends or relatives for whom this special service will hold comfort, feel free to invite them. The doors are open to all.

Sewing group donates dresses & shorts

MAYTOWN — The sewing group from St. Patrick's Parish, Maytown, recently gathered with Debbie Ward, a representative from Samaritans Purse, "Operation Christmas Child," who had requested donations of dresses and shorts for her church's Christmas boxes.

These boxes, from Christ Community Church in Princeton, are sent all over the world to children in need. Maytown's sewing group donated 71 dresses and 55 pairs of shorts this year.

The sewing group meets weekly in St. Patrick's Parish Hall from April through November for sewing and fellowship.

The sewing group "Little Dresses for Africa" began sewing in 2011. So far, the group has made, with the help of others, almost 6,000 dresses and hundreds of shorts. Fabric and sewing notions have been donated and appreciated.

For more information about the project, contact Marilyn Weeks at 815-638-2202 or Marilyn Blaine at 815-712-5641.



The sewing group from St. Patrick Parish, Maytown, donated dresses and shorts for children in need. Left to right, are Debbie Ward, a representative from Samaritans Purse, "Operation Christmas Child," and sewing group members Marilyn Weeks, LaVerne Klein and Marilyn Blaine. Not pictured: Kathy McLaughlin, Karen Henkel and Nancy Mattheiu. (Photo contributed)

Fundraiser set Dec. 10 for J. Marks

AMBOY — Johnny's Journey, a fund-raising event for John Marks, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 4-8 p.m. at Amboy Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Road, Amboy. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person.

Marks was born and raised in the Paw Paw/Earlville area and now lives in Rock Falls with his wife, Tennille, and sons Braxten, 16, and Brody, 12. He also has a daughter, Alex, 27, and a new son-in-law, Alex.

Marks was diagnosed with stage IV neuroendocrine carcinoid cancer in December 2021. Because of his hormone treatment, he is now a diabetic. He will be having surgery to remove a portion of his colon and will have a permanent colostomy.

He has exhausted his sick days and continues to work when he can. The cancer is

treatable, but not curable. He will continue the therapy he receives now and will soon start chemotherapy that will continue the rest of his life.

The fund-raiser will include a bake sale, 50/50 raffle, silent auction, live auction and cash bar. T-shirts are also available and can be ordered through kaleels.com.

All money raised will help the family with medical bills and expenses. Donations are accepted through Venom @John-Marks904, contact a committee member, or mail or drop off contributions to Sauk Valley Bank, 904 First Ave., Rock Falls, IL 61071. Checks should be made payable to John C. Marks or Tennille Marks.

Committee members are Patsy Marks, 815-910-9243; Anita Hopkins, 815-751-1837; Kathy Lamb, 815-499-7740; and Dawn Nicholson, 815-973-1063.



Reuniting from the LaMoille High School class of 1957 on Oct. 14 were, front row, left to right, Richard Haas, James (Ron) Johnson and Ronald Moore. Back row, Jeanette (Fischer) Brandau, Janis (Thone) Sweitek, Suzi (Drummer) Gott and Mary Jane (Nothnagel) Dolk. (Photo contributed)

LaMoille classes of '57 & '58 gather for a reunion

LaMOILLE — The LaMoille High School graduating classes of 1957 and 1958 celebrated their 65th and 64th reunion on Friday, Oct. 14 in the Fellowship Hall of the Van Orin Gospel Church.

There were seven members from the class of 1957 and 10 members from the class of 1958 in attendance.

After a delicious meal, the classmates and their guests spent the afternoon visiting and reminiscing. A great time was had by all.



Reuniting from the LaMoille High School class of 1958 on Oct. 14 were, front row, left to right, Audrey (Schultz) Barlow, Avis (Jackson) Bird, Audrey (Happ) Bonnell, Avalon (Marcum) Gibson and Joyce (Scriba) Sondgeroth. Back row, Sue (Browder) DeLong, Carol (Barkman) Haas, Donald Schultz, Donna (Billhorn) Zinke and Rosella (Bonnell) Leffelman. (Photo contributed)

OBITUARIES

Austin P.L. Sessler

MENDOTA — Austin P.L. Sessler, 24, of Mendota, left this world Nov. 22, 2022.

Visitation will be Friday, Dec. 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Wasmer Funeral Home. Burial will be private. Wasmer Funeral Home is privileged to assist the family.

He was born March 20, 1998, in Mendota, on a beautiful spring day, to Elizabeth (Liz) Hertz and Justin P.L. Sessler.

He is survived by his loving parents, Elizabeth M. Hertz and Justin P.L. Sessler; maternal grandmother, Lavern Hertz; paternal grandparents, Gary and Pat Baird Sessler; his treasured little brother, Finn Sessler; maternal uncles, Doug and Dave Hertz; and paternal aunt, Amber D. Sessler.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Joe Hertz; aunt, Staci Sessler and her daughter, Skye; and great uncle John Verklan Jr.

Austin was a reserved young man, with a generous, giving heart, and a kind soul. He

loved animals, especially his cat, Libby; his family, and the world around him. Always willing to help a friend, and readily turning strangers into friends, he was generous with his time, friendship and love, always looking out for others, willing to help in any way, which prompted him three years ago to join the EV Wizard Warriors Six Flags Coaster Challenge Team with his Grandpa Gary, Aunt Amber, 'Aunt' Barb, and brother, Finn, to raise funds for Special Olympics, to honor his cousin, Storm Hannen.

He will be so grievously missed by his family and create a huge void in the life of his personal joy—his little brother, Finn, on whom he doted. Austin was his most ardent fan through baseball and soccer games and Taekwon do. They could often be seen around town together, doing yardwork to help others, and enjoying Austin's latest passion, skateboarding, which he was teaching Finn. They made an awesome online team playing video games together. Austin enjoyed movies, anime, off-beat TV shows, and also had a love of music, being an avid drummer. He was a member of the MHS Class of 2016.

Memorials may be directed to the family. A GoFundMe page has been established to help with expenses. Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.



Barbara L. Morehead

HARMON — Barbara Lynette Morehead (nee Truckenbrod), 70 years young, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Nov. 22, 2022 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022 at 11 a.m. at Zion Lutheran Church of Clarion with Rev. Ian Griffith officiating. Cremation rites will be accorded after the funeral and private burial will be at a later date. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4-6 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota.

Barbara was born on July 7, 1952 in Mendota to the late Paul and Marjorie



(Meyer) Truckenbrod. She married the love of her life, Jeffrey Morehead, on Sept. 11, 1976 at Zion Lutheran Church and they had three children.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Jeffrey Morehead of Harmon; her sons, Joshua (Katie) Morehead and Jacob Morehead; daughter, Molly Thomson; grandchildren, Brady, Chandler (Crystal), Abby, Addason, and Jane; great-granddaughter, Madalyn; brother, Paul (Patricia) Truckenbrod; and many nephews and nieces.

Barbara worked as a dietary manager at KSB Hospital for over 20 years and was treasurer for the Village of Harmon. She was an avid crafter, singer, cook, and loving grandmother. She was a member of Sweet Adelines singing group and worked with Primitive Frills in Sterling.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Mary A. Meyers

MENDOTA — Mary Alice (Thomas) Meyers, 86, of Mendota, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, Nov. 24, 2022, at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota, surrounded by her loving family.

At her request, no services will be held and cremation rites have been accorded. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota, is assisting the family.

Mary was born Aug. 26, 1936, to Ed and Lula Thomas in Romine Township. She



married Rick Meyers on Nov. 1, 1974.

She is survived by her husband Rick Meyers of Mendota; five sons, Ed (Estelle) of Mt. Morris, Steve (Kim) of Compton, Walt (Linda) and Bill (Renee), both of Mendota, and Jason (Kay) of Oglesby; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Eugene and Estel.

Mary retired from Del Monte Corp. after 25 years of service. She was a member and attended the Kingdom Hall in Mendota and Peru.

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

OBITUARIES

Wayne L. Schultz

MENDOTA — Wayne L. Schultz, 87, of Mendota, passed away Nov. 23, 2022 in his home with his family by his side.

Visitation will be Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, from 5-7 p.m. at Wasmer Funeral Home, Mendota.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Burial will be private.

Wayne was born April 3, 1935 in Peru to Vincent "Packy" and Marian (Stuart) Schultz. He graduated LaSalle-Peru High School in 1953. Wayne married Virginia Smith on March 30, 1962 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Peru.

Wayne will be dearly missed by his seven sons, Jeffrey (Linda) Wobrock of Peru, William (Kathy) Wobrock of Wenona Lake, Ind., Kevin Wobrock of West Chicago, Patrick (Janet) Schultz of Madison, Ga., Michael Schultz of Independence, Mo., Christopher

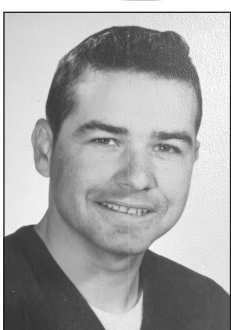
(Pam) Schultz of Oakland, Tenn., Timothy (Rhonda) Schultz of DeKalb; 20 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; sister Kay (Arthur) Giese of Peru; and companion Karol Hetrick of Mendota.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife Virginia on Dec. 16, 2012; great-grandchild Alex Heagy; brother Keith in infancy; and sister Gwen Kubera.

Wayne joined the United States Marine Corps in 1960 until 1965 leaving as an E5 sergeant. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1960. He worked at Westclox for 17 years from 1953 to 1975. In 1975, he started the Wayne Schultz Insurance agency and sold the business in 2000 to the First State Bank of Mendota. For several years he worked with First State Insurance.

Wayne was very active in the community, belonging to the Mendota Elks Lodge #1212, the Mendota Golf Club and with the Mendota Lions Club for 30 plus years, serving on many committees and as Past President.

Memorials may be directed to the Mendota Golf Club or Mendota Lions Club. Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.



HOLIDAY SHOPPING CENTER

SPORTS N STUFF
43RD ANNIVERSARY SALE
Nov. 30 - Dec. 3
43% OFF
1 Single Item

Hours: 8 am - 4 pm,
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We welcome our new stylist
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*Looking for a truly
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Mendota Area Chamber Gift Certificates!

Mendota Shops offer a large and varied array of gift giving ideas for everyone on your Christmas List. Puzzled? Wondering what to get those hard to buy for relatives, friends and fellow employees? How about Mendota Area Chamber Gift Certificates! They can be made for any denomination and they are always the right size and color! The Certificates may be purchased at the Chamber office.

Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce
 Gift Certificate
 No Expiration Date

Date, Dec. 1, 2022
 \$15.00

Mrs. Jane Doe
 Fifteen and 00/100.....Dollars
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Signature: _____

**AVAILABLE STARTING
 NOVEMBER 19TH**

**PICK A NAME OFF
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"Christmas Elves" with names and ages of needy children will be available starting Nov. 19th, at Eureka Savings Bank, First State Bank, Financial Plus Credit Union, First Federal Savings Bank, and First State Bank Plaza North.

After shopping for that special child, the gift may be taken to Eureka Savings Bank by 4 p.m., on Friday, Dec. 9 You may call ahead or go through the drive-up to let them know you are dropping off a gift. Financial support is also being accepted and may be dropped off at the Chamber office in December. For more information, call the Mendota Chamber of Commerce at 815-539-6507.

THE BACK PAGE

Make sure CO detectors are in working order

SPRINGFIELD - The Office of the State Fire Marshal warns residents across the state to pay special attention to the distinct signals sent by carbon monoxide alarms when their life has expired. Frequently, people may believe that a beep coming out of their CO means it's time for a battery change, when in fact it means that the device needs to be replaced.

"It is extremely important to pay attention to the different beeps that come out of a dead CO alarm. We want to ensure that our residents understand the difference in order to take immediate action and prevent a tragedy," said a spokesperson from the Illinois State Fire Marshal's office. "Carbon monoxide is known as the silent killer. The replacement of dead carbon monoxide detectors is also a life saver."

Since January 2007, it has been an Illinois law to have a properly functioning CO alarm in all dwelling units. The law requires that detectors must have battery power as the primary or secondary power supply. They cannot be solely electric powered. Many carbon monoxide detectors now in service were made prior to the incorporation of the new requirements and may not have an end-of-life signal.



Carbon monoxide is the number one cause of poisoning deaths in the nation, claiming approximately 300 lives a year, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Because CO is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas, it can kill people before they realize its presence. It can be produced by gas or oil appliances such as furnaces, clothes dryers, water heaters, ovens, space heaters or, in some cases, by fireplaces and wood-burning stoves.

OSFM advises consumers that if their CO alarms were manufactured before August 2009, prior to the incorporation of the new requirements, they may not have the end-of-life feature. In addition, residents who have a carbon monoxide detector installed for more than three years should look for the manufacturing date, which may be found on the outside back of the alarm or visit the company's website for further information. If none can be found, the device should be replaced without any hesitation.

Carbon monoxide alarms should be tested every month by pushing the test button. If the alarm goes off, follow the basic steps:

- If your CO detector activates, evacuate everyone from your home immediately leaving the door open for ventilation on your way out and then call 911.
- Do not re-enter until experts have investigated the problem and declared

it safe to return.

Other important tips:

- Ensure that household appliances are installed and running correctly. Have a professional technician check fuel-burning appliances, furnaces, chimneys and vents at least annually for blockages, corrosion, debris and faulty connections.

- Check appliances in the home that use natural gas, oil, wood and kerosene such as water heaters, clothes dryers, ranges, ovens, gas-powered refrigerators and pilot lights.

- Never operate unvented fuel-burning appliances in a room with closed doors or windows or in rooms where people are sleeping.

- Check venting systems to the outside for cracks and blockages such as flues, chimneys and fireplaces.

- Make sure space heaters are vented properly.

- Never operate generators indoors.

- Never burn charcoal inside a home, garage, vehicle or tent.

- Never use gasoline-powered tools and engines indoors.

- Never use gas-powered appliances such as an oven or clothes dryer for heating a home.

- Never leave a car running in an attached garage, even if the garage door is open.

For additional information about carbon monoxide poisoning, visit the OSFM webpage at www.sfm.illinois.gov or the National Fire Protection Association.

POLICE BLOTTER

TWO-VEHICLE ACCIDENT

A two-vehicle accident occurred at the intersection of 13th Avenue and U.S. 52 at 6:51 p.m. Nov. 25.

The Mendota Police Department investigated the crash and determined that the at-fault driver has been identified as Gary A. Ten Hoven, 62, of Romeoville. He and his front-seat passenger sustained serious but non-life-threatening injuries. Ten Hoven was transferred to Rockford Memorial Hospital.

Michael P. Stumreiter, 44, of 223 Wheeler St., Paw Paw, was the driver of the second vehicle. Sheri M. Stumreiter, 42, of 223 Wheeler St., Paw Paw, was a front-seat passenger and a female juvenile was sitting in the back seat. All three occupants were evaluated for injuries at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota. Sheri Stumreiter was later transferred to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Enforcement action is pending until the conclusion of the investigation.

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12 Days of Giving

Shop Local & WIN!

Nov. 21 is the kickoff date for the Mendota Chamber's 2022 12 Days of Giving Christmas Shop Local Promotion. The 12 Days of Giving will begin on Nov. 21 at participating businesses.

For every \$10 spent in a participating business, you will receive one sticker. In order to qualify for the 12 Days of Giving prizes, you must turn in a full card and each card must have stickers from at least FIVE OF THE PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES.

Double Stickers will be handed out during the Mendota Christmas event on Saturday, Dec. 3. Be sure to stop by the Mendota Chamber information booth downtown during the event for a special Mendota Chamber Shop Local Sticker.

Bring in your full cards to the Mendota Chamber Office at 800 Washington St., starting Nov. 21. You may also drop off your full card in the city's drop box on Illinois Avenue.

The 12 Days of Giving drawings will begin on Dec. 9 and be held every day, except Sundays, through Dec. 22. There will be 1 winner each day. The daily prizes will include merchandise and gift cards from our participating businesses.

On Dec. 22, the Chamber will draw for the grand prize. All daily winners will be added back into the Dec. 22 drawing. The Grand Prize will include merchandise and gift cards from our participating businesses.

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Mendota Pet Salon
Mendota Shell

Mendota Sport Shop
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Quest
Road Ranger
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Santa's Christmas COLORING CONTEST

NAME: _____

AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

All children 10 years old & younger are invited to color the Christmas scene shown here & submit to The Mendota Reporter for a chance to win fabulous prizes.

Entries must be received at our office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota. Entries must be received by Dec. 15, 2022.

Winners will be notified.

Prizes awarded for:

1st Place

2nd Place

3rd Place

Must be 10 or younger to enter.



*Thanks to these fine sponsors for making this
Coloring Contest possible. Happy Holidays!*

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SPORTS



Mendota's sophomore boys' basketball team took first place in the Seneca Tournament. Front row, left to right, are Cam Escatel, Domenic Richey, Logan Martin, Alex Beetz and Evan McPheeters. Back row, head coach Evan Carroll, Dane Hiner, David Casas, Dane Doyle, Cam Kelly, Braiden Freeman, Aden Tillman and assistant coach Drake O'Donnell. (Photo contributed)

Trojan sophomores win 3 straight to claim Seneca Tourney crown

SENECA – Mendota's sophomore boys' basketball team won three straight games to capture first place in the Seneca Tournament held Nov. 25-26.

The Trojans opened with a 48-24 triumph over Newark. Alex Beetz led the scoring with 13 points, followed by Domenic Richey with 10 and Dane Doyle with eight.

Mendota rolled over Seneca, 51-27 in

game two. Aden Tillman pumped in seven three-pointers on his way to a 24-point explosion. He hit five of his treys in the first period. Doyle chipped in with 11 markers.

Hall and Mendota met for the championship with the Trojans coming out on top, 40-34. Cam Kelly pumped in 15 points with four three-pointers, while Tillman also hit four treys and finished with 14 tallies.

MHS girls fall in conference opener

Mendota could never recover from a slow start and dropped a 53-23 decision to Ottawa Marquette in varsity girls' basketball action on Nov. 22 at Ottawa.

Marquette outscored the Lady Trojans, 13-0, in the first quarter and then 17-11 in the second period to take a 30-11 halftime lead.

Katie Jenner scored 13 of Mendota's 23 points, while Cassie Gonzalez chipped in with five markers and three steals. Naitzy Garcia topped the team with seven rebounds.

The Lady Trojans played without two starters, Reanna Brant and Karly Reel.

"Another game that I truly believe having those two girls (Brant and Reel) makes this a much different outcome," said Mendota coach John Hansen. "I'm proud of the way we competed in the second half."

Mendota and Bureau Valley battled in the Three Rivers Conference opener and the Storm came out on

top, 43-37, on Nov. 28 at the MHS gym.

The Lady Trojans fell behind 11-8 after the first frame and trailed 22-18 at the break. Bureau Valley outscored Mendota by a deuce in the second half.

"It was a disappointing loss because of why we lost," said Hansen. "We played our butts off and did a lot of great things at both ends, but let ourselves down by missing

BUREAU V. 43, MENDOTA 37 Bureau Valley (43)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Maynard	1	0-0	1	2
Neuhafen	1	0-0	2	2
Salisbury	7	2-4	0	16
Stolter	4	7-11	3	17
Wasilewski	1	1-4	3	3
Cady	1	1-1	4	3
Birkey	0	0-0	1	0
Totals	15	11-20	14	43

Mendota (37)				
	FG	FT	Reb	TP
Jenner	4	4-9	2	12
Zinke	0	0-0	1	0
Wasmer	1	0-1	2	2
Brant	1	2-10	8	4
Gonzalez	4	0-0	10	8
Garcia	5	1-2	7	11
Totals	15	7-22	30	37

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Bureau Valley	11	22	32	43
Mendota	8	18	26	37
Three-point goals: Bureau Valley - Stolter 2				

free throws and giving up rebounds."

Mendota (1-5, 0-1) converted on just seven of 22 free throws.

Jenner topped the Lady Trojans with 12 points, five steals and three assists. Garcia dropped in 11 points and had seven rebounds, while Gonzalez scored eight points and snared 10 boards.

MARQUETTE 53, MENDOTA 23 Mendota (23)				
	FG	FT	Reb	TP
Jenner	5	1-2	2	13
Zinke	0	1-2	3	1
Sondgeroth	0	0-0	2	0
Schultz	0	1-2	1	1
Wasmer	0	0-0	6	0
Gonzalez	2	0-0	4	5
Garcia	1	1-2	7	3
Totals	8	4-8	25	23

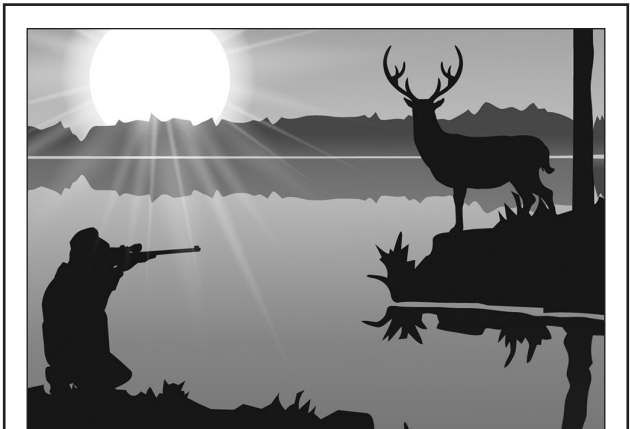
Ottawa Marquette (53)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Craig	8	1-2	2	17
McCallum	3	0-0	1	6
Backos	5	0-0	0	10
Dursaw	4	1-1	2	9
Larson	2	0-2	1	4
M. Nelson	1	0-0	1	2
K. Nelson	1	0-0	5	3
Cucitra	0	0-0	1	0
K. Rick	0	2-2	2	2
Totals	24	4-7	14	53

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	0	11	21	23
Marquette	13	30	51	53
Three-point goals: Mendota - Jenner 2, Gonzalez 1; Marquette - K. Nelson 1				

Northbrook boys' basketball

Nov. 21 @ Sandwich (6th Grade)
"A" game
Sandwich 32, Northbrook 15
Scoring: Pryar Christmann 4
"B" game
Northbrook 15, Sandwich 7

Scoring: Conner Bloomfield 8
Nov. 28 vs. Oglesby Washington (6th Grade)
Oglesby 36, Northbrook 20
Scoring: Illian Garcia 6, Sebastian Arteaga 6



Deer harvest totals given for first firearm season

SPRINGFIELD – Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 52,354 deer during the first weekend of the Illinois firearm deer season Nov. 18-20.

Comparatively, hunters took 48,964 deer during the first firearm weekend in 2021.

Illinois' seven-day firearm deer season will conclude Dec. 1-4. Other deer hunting opportunities in the weeks ahead include:

- Muzzleloader-only deer season Dec. 9-11
- Late-winter antlerless-only and Chronic Wasting Disease deer seasons (in select counties

only) Dec. 29-Jan. 1 and Jan. 13-15

• Archery deer season continues through Jan. 15. (Note: archery deer hunting is closed Dec. 1-4 in counties open for firearm deer season.)

For more details about deer hunting, open counties and other information, visit <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/hunting/Pages/DeerHunting.aspx>.

Deer harvest totals during the first weekend of the season for area counties are as follows:

Bureau – 609; DeKalb – 73; LaSalle – 427; Lee – 314; Ogle – 356; Putnam – 228; Whiteside – 335.

LaMoille H.S. boys' hoops

Ashton-Franklin Center Tournament
Nov. 21
LaMoille 56, West Carroll 46
Stats: Eli Keighin 19 points, 14 rebounds; Brayden Klein 11 points; Tyler Billhorn 10 points
Nov. 22
AFC 70, LaMoille 48
Stats: Logan Dober 13 points; Billhorn 12 points
Nov. 25
LaMoille 49, Leland 23
Stats: Dober 14 points; Billhorn 13 points; Keighin 10 points
Nov. 26
Polo 55, LaMoille 36
Stats: Dober 12 points; Keighin 12 points

Second firearm deer hunting season in Illinois planned for December 1-4

SPRINGFIELD – The second weekend of the 2022 firearm/muzzleloader deer hunting season in Illinois is approaching. The second firearm season is set for Dec. 1-4. A muzzleloader-only season will be Dec. 9-11.

Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Persons hunting deer must have their gun unloaded during hours when deer hunting is unlawful.

Recipients of deer firearm and muzzleloader permits shall record their signature on the permit prior to hunting and must carry it on their person while hunting. In addition to a permit, hunters must have a valid Illinois hunting, sportsmen, youth or apprentice license unless they are a person who is disabled and able to show proof of disability, an Illinois resident on active duty and on leave from the U.S. Armed Forces, or a landowner or tenant on farm lands, or the children, parents, brothers and sisters permanently residing on such lands, and hunting only the lands resided on.

Landowners/tenants are required to obtain a habitat stamp, unless exempt.

Successful deer hunters must register (report) their harvest by 10 p.m. on the same calendar day the deer was taken by calling the toll-free telephone check-in system at 1-866-452-4325 or by accessing the online check-in system at www.exploremoreil.com/wildlife/harvest.

For more information, visit www.dnr.illinois.gov and refer to the Illinois Digest of Hunting & Trapping Regulations.



Trojans take 5th in Seneca Tourney

SENECA – Mendota won two of four games and finished in fifth place in the Seneca Thanksgiving Tournament.

The Trojans started with a 52-46 loss to Hall on Nov. 22.

Mendota led 25-19 at the half and 38-31 after three quarters, but Hall came back to outscore the Trojans, 21-8, in the fourth frame to pull out the win.

Izaiah Nanez (16) and Rafael Romero (12) hit double digits in scoring for Mendota.

Mendota held off Somonauk in round two, 66-65, on Nov. 23.

The Trojans trailed 25-23 at intermission, but poured in 26 third-quarter points to grab a 49-44 lead heading to the final frame.

Mendota had a balanced scoring attack, led by Owen Aughenbaugh with 16 points. Cale Strauss fired in five three-pointers for 15 points, while Nanez had 14 and Romero added 13.

Seneca cruised past the Trojans, 70-42, on Nov. 25.

The host school sprinted out to a 25-10 advantage after the opening stanza and led 37-18 at the break.

Nanez paced Mendota with 21 points, hitting seven shots from three-point range. Aughenbaugh dropped in eight points.

Mendota won the fifth-place game over Herscher, 48-36, on Nov. 26.

The Trojans were in

HALL 52, MENDOTA 46 Mendota (46)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
C. Strauss	2	0-1	4	6
Guzman	3	0-1	2	7
Romero	5	2-6	5	12
Nanez	4	7-7	1	16
R. Strauss	1	2-2	3	5
Tillman	0	0-2	0	0
Totals	15	11-19	15	46

Hall (52)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Resetch	8	9-11	1	25
Pecher	4	0-0	1	12
Bryant	0	1-2	3	1
Meagher	0	0-0	1	0
Dye	2	2-3	2	7
Plym	0	0-0	1	0
Curran	2	0-0	3	5
Smith	1	0-0	2	2
Galetti	0	0-0	3	0
Totals	17	12-16	17	52

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	17	25	38	46
Hall	10	19	31	52
Three-point goals: Mendota - C. Strauss 2, Guzman 1, Nanez 1, R. Strauss 1; Hall - Pecher 4, Curran 1, Dye 1				

MENDOTA 48, HERSCHER 36 Mendota (48)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
C. Strauss	3	0-0	1	8
Guzman	3	2-3	2	10
Romero	8	0-2	0	16
Nanez	3	0-1	1	7
R. Strauss	2	1-1	4	5
Aughenbaugh	1	0-0	0	2
Totals	20	3-7	8	48

Herscher (36)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Wenzelman	3	1-2	2	8
Holt	0	0-0	4	0
Ritsema	2	1-2	4	6
Coutant	1	0-0	1	3
Fowler	2	0-0	1	4
Jones	6	0-0	0	15
Totals	14	2-4	14	36

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	18	27	37	48
Herscher	7	16	27	36
Three-point goals: Mendota - C. Strauss 2, Guzman 2, Nanez 1; Herscher - Wenzelman 1, Ritsema 1, Coutant 1, Jones 3				

control from the opening tip, taking an 18-7 lead after one period and owning a 27-16 margin at intermission.

Romero led the way with 16 points, followed by Isaac

MENDOTA 66, SOMONAUK 65 Mendota (66)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
C. Strauss	5	0-0	1	15
Guzman	2	1-4	3	6
Romero	6	1-4	5	13
Nanez	6	0-1	2	14
R. Strauss	1	0-0	3	2
Stamberger	0	0-0	1	0
Aughenbaugh	8	0-1	2	16
Dewey	0	0-0	1	0
Totals	28	2-10	18	66

Somonauk (65)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Bahrey	6	4-5	2	19
Sexton	2	0-0	1	5
Haag	2	0-0	0	6
Hannibal	1	0-0	2	2
Eade	6	7-8	5	20
Wilkinson	0	0-0	2	0
Resendez	3	1-2	1	9
Johnson	1	1-2	1	4
Totals	21	13-17	14	65

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	12	23	49	66
Somonauk	15	25	44	65
Three-point goals: Mendota - C. Strauss 5, Guzman 1, Nanez 2; Somonauk - Bahrey 3, Sexton 1, Haag 2, Resendez 2, Johnson 1, Eade 1				

SENECA 70, MENDOTA 42 Mendota (42)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
C. Strauss	1	0-2	3	2
Guzman	0	0-1	0	0
Romero	1	1-3	2	3
Nanez	7	0-0	2	21
R. Strauss	2	1-2	2	5
Stamberger	0	0-0	1	0
Baird	1	0-0	0	3
Aughenbaugh	3	0-0	4	8
Totals	15	2-8	14	42

Seneca (70)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Daggett	2	0-0	1	4
Degrash	0	0-2	1	0
Klinker	1	1-4	3	3
Ellis	3	0-0	2	7
Gertz	9	7-9	0	28
Maierhofer	7	0-0	4	14
Provance	5	3-6	2	13
Siegel	0	1-2	0	1
Lucas	0	0-0	1	0
Totals	27	12-23	14	70

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	10	18	37	42
Seneca	25	37	55	70
Three-point goals: Mendota - Nanez 7, Aughenbaugh 2, Baird 1; Seneca - Ellis 1, Gertz 3				

Guzman with 10 and Cale Strauss with eight.

Wrestlers go 1-1 in triangular

AMBOY – Mendota's wrestlers opened the season by splitting a triangular meet at Amboy on Nov. 22.

The Trojans scored a 42-35 victory over the host Clippers. There were only three actual matches wrestled, with Mendota's Jose Hermosillo picking up a pin win at 145 pounds. Forfeit wins for the Trojans went to Cadance Thornton, Lea Turner, Julian Jordan, Payton Gagliardo, Reese Lane and Albert Harris.

St. Bede downed the Trojans, 45-24. Hermosillo got another pin win for Mendota, as did Corbin Furar at 138 pounds. Forfeits went to Thornton and Gavin Evans.

Nov. 22 @ Amboy Mendota 42, Amboy 35
106 – double forfeit; 113 – Cadance Thornton (M) won forfeit; 120 – Blanton (A) won forfeit; 126 – Montavon (A) won forfeit; 132 – Near (A) dec. Gavin Evans (M), 14-0; 138 – McKendry (A) pinned Corbin Furar (M); 145 – Jose Hermosillo (M) pinned Doege (A); 152 – Lea Turner (M) won forfeit; 160 – Julian Jordan (M) won forfeit; 170 – Blanton (A) won forfeit; 182 – Payton Gagliardo (M) won forfeit; 195 – Reese Lane (M) won forfeit; 220 – Beckham (A) won forfeit; 285 – Albert Harris (M) won forfeit

St. Bede 45, Mendota 24
106 – double forfeit; 113 – Thornton (M) won forfeit; 120 – double forfeit; 126 – Savage (SB) won forfeit; 132 – Evans (M) won forfeit; 138 – Furar (M) pinned Boggio (SB); 145 – Hermosillo (M) pinned Englehaupt (SB); 152 – Pineda (SB) pinned Ozy Arteaga (M); 160 – Maschman (SB) won forfeit; 170 – Gillan (SB) won forfeit; 182 – Connelly (SB) pinned Wyatt Ossman (M); 195 – J. Migliorini (SB) pinned Lane (M); 220 – R. Migliorini (SB) won forfeit; 285 – Shaw (SB) dec. Gabe Vallejo (M), 5-3.

SPORTS

BOWLING

Tuesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Nov. 15
– 1. Black Bros. 27-17; 2. JJ&L Carpentry 22-22; 3. Team 2 21-23; 4. Age Old Organics 18-26

High team game (scratch)
– JJ&L Carpentry 1043, Black Bros. 991, Team 2975
High team game (hdcp)
– JJ&L Carpentry 1183, Black Bros. 1131, Age Old Organics 1040

High team series (scratch)
– JJ&L Carpentry 2950, Black Bros. 2867, Team 2 2783

High team series (hdcp)
– JJ&L Carpentry 3370, Black Bros. 3287, Age Old Organics 3072

High individual game (scratch) – Luke Ross 278, Randy Weathers 269, Kirk Ross 268

High individual series (scratch) – Luke Ross 717, Kirk Ross 689, Randy Weathers 676

Wednesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Nov. 16
– 1. First State Bank 26.5-17.5; 2. Boelk Truck Lines 23.5-20.5; 3. O'Donnell Excavating 21-23; 4. Mendota Monument 17-27

High team game (scratch)
– First State Bank 1012, Mendota Monument 984, O'Donnell Excavating 907
High team game (hdcp)
– First State Bank 1121, O'Donnell Excavating 1096, Boelk Truck Lines 1046

High team series (scratch) – First State Bank 2915, Mendota Monument 2892, Boelk Truck Lines 2643

High team series (hdcp)
– First State Bank 3242, O'Donnell Excavating 3153, Boelk Truck Lines 3096

High individual game (scratch) – Erik Schmitt 268, Drake O'Donnell 258,

Adam Martin 249

High individual series (scratch) – Erik Schmitt 755, Drake O'Donnell 707, Tyler Schmitt 662

Elks 4

Youth League

Standings as of Nov. 17
– 1. Team 2 13-3; 2. Team 5 11-5; 3. Team 4 8-8; 4. Team 3 5-11; 5. Team 1 3-13

High team game (scratch)
– Team 3 269, Team 5 235, Team 2 186

High team game (hdcp)
– Team 3 632, Team 5 629, Team 2 599

High team series (scratch) – Team 3 764, Team 5 677, Team 2 511

High team series (hdcp)
– Team 5 1859, Team 3 1853, Team 2 1750

Boys' high game (scratch) – Parker Ramer 102, Kaden Young 86, Jaxen Daley 85

Boys' high game (hdcp)
– Aaron Manion 220, Bentley Bejster 219, Kade Young 218

Boys' high series (scratch) – Parker Ramer 293, Kaden Young 237, Bentley Bejster 215

Boys' high series (hdcp)
– Bentley Bejster 635, Kaden Young 633, Billy Bromenschenkel 627

Girls' high game (scratch)
– Brooklyn Mauch 62

Girls' high game (hdcp)
– Brooklyn Mauch 217

Girls' high series (scratch) – Brooklyn Mauch 169

Girls' high series (hdcp)
– Brooklyn Mauch 634

Elks 6

Youth League

Standings as of Nov. 17
– 1. Team 1 6-10; 2. Team 2 4-12; 3. Team 3 4-12

Boys' high game (scratch)
– Oliver Turner 147

Boys' high game (hdcp)
– Oliver Turner 235

Boys' high series (scratch) – Oliver Turner

405

Boys' high series (hdcp)
– Oliver Turner 669

Girls' high game (scratch)
– Ashlynn Martin 97

Girls' high game (hdcp)
– Ashlynn Martin 217

Girls' high series (scratch)
– Ashlynn Martin 206

Girls' high series (hdcp)
– Ashlynn Martin 566

Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Nov. 21
– 1. Split Happens 37-13; 2. CM Farm 29-21; 3. Sports-N-Stuff 25-25; 4. Bad Kats 24-26; 5. Leagal Beagles 18-32; 6. Ramer Inc. 17-33

High team game (scratch)
– Split Happens 736, Sports-N-Stuff 632, Leagal Beagles 614

High team game (hdcp)
– Split Happens 971, CM Farm 949, Sports-N-Stuff 918

High team series (scratch) – Split Happens 2107, Sports-N-Stuff 1868, Leagal Beagle 1813

High team series (hdcp)
– Split Happens 2812, CM

Farm 2743, Sports-N-Stuff 2726

Men's high game (scratch) – Matt Ramer 248, Tyler Schmitt 246, Mike Smith 206

Men's high game (hdcp)
– Matt Ramer 274, Tyler Schmitt 272, Brendan Ramer 264

Men's high series (scratch) – Matt Ramer 707, Tyler Schmitt 668, Ron Westphal 568

Men's high series (hdcp)
– Matt Ramer 785, Tyler Schmitt 746, Brendan Ramer 717

Women's high game (scratch) – Jessica Robinson 214, Gail Sessler 179, Hannah Westphal 172

Women's high game (hdcp) – Jessica Robinson 278, Hannah Westphal 261, Gail Sessler 245

Women's high series (scratch) – Jessica Robinson 626, Gail Sessler 494, Hannah Westphal 452

Women's high series (hdcp) – Jessica Robinson 818, Hannah Westphal 719, Brenda Westphal 700

IDNR gives '22 chronic wasting disease sampling locations for deer hunters

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is reminding deer hunters about locations where deer can be tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD) free of charge.

CWD is a fatal disease of the central nervous system in deer. Biologists track the distribution and intensity of CWD primarily through testing of hunter-harvested deer.

Since 2002 when the first deer was diagnosed with CWD in Illinois, 150,970 wild deer have been sampled statewide, and 1,383 individual deer have been found to be infected with CWD. The disease is predominantly found in the northern third of Illinois.

Hunters can visit participating vendors, including taxidermists and meat processors, or drop deer heads at self-serve drop-off sites. A list of locations is available online at <https://bit.ly/ILCWDdropoff>.

Locations also can be found on the Hunt Illinois app at <https://huntillinois.org>.

<https://bit.ly/CWDdropoffmap>.

Hunters in CWD counties are strongly encouraged to have their deer tested. Hunters who plan to have their deer mounted can have a cooperating taxidermist collect the sample; testing procedures will not damage the deer skull. Hunters not using a cooperating taxidermist can bring the caped-off head to an IDNR sample drop-off barrel location where available.

Firearm deer hunters in CWD counties can get a voluntary sample taken by a biologist when they bring harvested deer to mandatory physical check stations during the firearm seasons. Hunters in non-CWD counties can use sample drop-off barrels or sampling vendors to have samples taken.

Hunters can view the results of their CWD tests by visiting <https://bit.ly/CWDtestresults>. Hunters will be contacted by an IDNR wildlife biologist if their deer tests positive for CWD.

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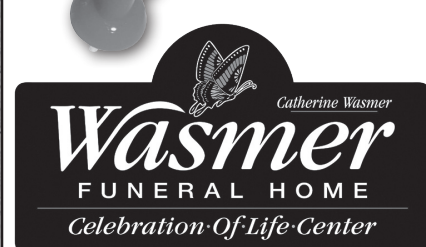
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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Eric Roberts, Julia Roberts' brother, was once an up-and-coming lead actor. Hereceived Oscar and Golden Globe nominations in 1985 for "Runaway Train," as well as Golden Globe nominations for "King of the Gypsies" (1978) and "Star 80" (1983). But he became a working actor, having acted in more than 515 films. Last year alone, he did 33 films and has 60 projects in the works for next year. But now, at 66, he's landed a plum role playing Margot Robbie's father in Oscar-winning "La La Land" director Damien Chazelle's film, "Babylon," which also stars Brad Pitt, arriving Dec. 23. We'd call it a comeback, but after 515 films, Eric Roberts never went away!



Roberts

Warren Beatty now has a lawsuit brought upon him by a woman claiming he coerced her to have sex when she was

14 and he was 35. The suit names "an actor nominated for an Academy Award in 1967 for playing Clyde in 'Bonnie And Clyde.'" The woman alleges they met on the set, and he gave her his phone number instructing her to call. She maintains that they had sex on multiple occasions. A 2019 California law opened a three-year window to file claims of child abuse otherwise barred by the statute of limitations. She's charging Beatty with sexual battery, sexual assault and sex with a minor.

On a happier note ... Godzilla turned 68 on Nov. 3, which Toho Studios proclaimed globally as "Godzilla Day." The first "Godzilla" was released in 1954, and to widen its appeal for American audiences, Toho added Raymond Burr to the sequel "Godzilla, King of the Monsters!" in 1956 as an on-camera reporter narrating the proceedings. A year later, Burr became Perry Mason for a decade.

Thirty-one more Godzilla films followed this sequel. Toho is now preparing a 33rd Godzilla film, and

AppleTV+ is creating a Godzilla series.

Is Steven Spielberg changing his mind about making films for streaming platforms? He recently admitted, "The pandemic created an opportunity for streaming platforms to raise their subscription levels and also throw some of my filmmaker friends under the bus. ... They were paid off, and their films were suddenly relegated to, in this case, HBO Max. ... And then everything started to change." He claims that audiences who end up making the trek to theaters tend to feel the trip was worthwhile.

However, he used his film "The Post" (2017), which starred Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep and earned six Oscar nominations, as an example of a film that could have benefited from being a streaming-only release: "The film had something to say to millions of people, and we were never going to get those millions into enough theaters to make a difference."

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Couch Theater

"Wednesday" (TV-14) -- Out now is the new spinoff series based off "The Addams Family." Having generated buzz online for some time, the spinoff mainly focuses on the Addams' gothic daughter, Wednesday, and her coming of age. Jenna Ortega ("You" and "Jane the Virgin") plays Wednesday as she enrolls in the boarding school Nevermore Academy, placing her extremely out of her comfort zone. Little does Wednesday know that the adventures and sights she's bound to see in this academy make her the most pivotal person to attend it. Viewers will recognize Catherine Zeta-Jones, Luis Guzman and Fred Armisen as other kooky Addams family members. (Netflix)

"Limitless with Chris Hemsworth" (TV-14) -- After learning that he has a greater chance of developing Alzheimer's disease later in life, Chris Hemsworth (Thor in the "Thor" franchise) decided to embark on a physical and mental journey in order to

learn how to live a better life for longer. In this six-episode series, he pushes his body to its limit by attempting extreme tasks, like walking on a crane 900 feet above the ground and going four days without food. You've never seen the actor more vulnerable than this, and his determination to increase his life's longevity is inspirational. Out now. (Disney+)

"The People We Hate at the Wedding" (R) -- When two American siblings, Alice and Paul, receive invitations to their half-sister's (Eloise's) wedding in London, they are reluctant to attend, mostly due to their great estrangement. Once there, their stark differences from Eloise, in combination with all three siblings' out-of-touch mother, couldn't be more uncomfortable. This catapults them into a series of events that establish Alice, Paul and their mother as those family members everyone can't help but loathe. This comedy film, out now, stars Kristen Bell,

Ben Platt and Allison Janney. (Prime Video)

"Alone Together" (R) -- Written and directed by -- as well as starring -- Katie Holmes, this quaint romantic drama takes place in upstate New York during the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdowns. Two strangers, June and Charlie, accidentally end up at the same Airbnb, finding out that it was double booked. But, they make the most out of the coincidental situation and agree to spend the quarantine in the rental together. June and Charlie appear to be much different than each other but quickly begin to bond in ways they couldn't within their other relationships. Out now, "Alone Together" is the perfect date night, or late night, watch. And fun fact: Holmes' 16-year-old daughter, Suri Cruise, sings a rendition of "Blue Moon" by Richard Rogers and Lorenz Hart for the film. (Hulu)

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Whatever happened to the actor who played "Napoleon Dynamite"? I haven't seen him in years. -- **U.R.**

A: Jon Heder will probably always be linked to his cult-comedy character Napoleon Dynamite. The indie comedy has endured as a cult classic, inspiring Halloween costumes for almost two decades since its premiere, but Heder has remained under the radar. After that success, he starred in silly comedy films "Blades of Glory" and "The Benchwarmers." In recent years, Heder starred in the Thanksgiving film "Funny Thing About Love" and voiced the character of Tybalt in the new animated film "Pinocchio: A True Story."

Q: Is Will Smith's career over after he lost his temper and hit Chris Rock at the Oscars? I know he's been banned from the awards ceremony, but will anyone hire him as an actor again? -- **B.W.**

A: Academy-Award-winning actor Will Smith has been banned from attending the Oscars for 10 years, but he can still be nominated for an award. He actually

has several projects in the works, but we'll see if movie audiences still accept him as these projects are rolled out. First up is "Emancipation," which is based on a true story about a slave who escapes captivity during the Civil War. It will be available to watch on AppleTV+ starting Dec. 9, a week after its theatrical release.

Smith will also team up with Martin Lawrence in "Bad Boys 4." Just to give you an indication of how high the bar is for this one to be a hit, the third "Bad Boys" film, "Bad Boys for Life," generated more than \$400 million at the box office in 2020. Sony producer Tom Rothman said that despite Smith's violent outburst earlier this year, the movie is still on track to begin filming in the near future.

Q: Whatever happened to Troy Landry from "Swamp People" and Duane and Beth Chapman from "Dog the Bounty Hunter"? -- **S.W.**

A: According to the History Channel's biography on him, Troy Landry, otherwise known as "King of the Swamp," is one of the most "fearless alligator hunters in the bayou." Along with

his sons, Jacob and Chase, "the Landry gang runs an armada of boats each season to help control the gator population."

Jacob recently addressed the status of his father's whereabouts in a Facebook Live video, saying that Troy was on the road to recovery after having his prostate removed due to cancer, but that there would be a 14th season of "Swamp People" at some point.

As for Duane and Beth Chapman from "Dog the Bounty Hunter," Duane was widowed after Beth passed away in 2019 from throat and lung cancer. The series ran from 2002 to 2012. He's now married for the sixth time to widow Francie Frane, but he doesn't currently have a reality show. The couple has been focusing on their charity group, The D.O.G. Foundation, which provides housing, counseling and life-skills training to trafficking victims.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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• Trivia Test •

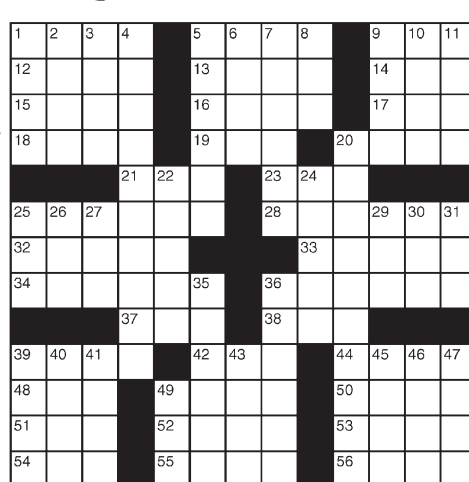
1. GEOGRAPHY: Which country is the most forested in the world?
2. HISTORY: When were tanks first introduced in war?
3. TELEVISION: What is the name of the Netflix sequel to the "Karate Kid" movies?
4. MUSIC: Which music prodigy was signed to a record deal at age 11?
5. ASTRONOMY: In which year will Halley's Comet reappear?
6. LAW: Which justice served on the Supreme Court for the longest?
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of dogs did President Obama's family have in the White House?
8. FOOD & DRINK: Where did the first White Castle restaurant open?
9. ANATOMY: What is the rarest human blood type?
10. LITERATURE: What is Harry Potter's middle name?

Answers
1. Russia.
2. 1916, Battle of the Somme.
3. "Cobra Kai."
4. Stevie Wonder.
5. 2061.
6. William O. Douglas (36 years).
7. Portuguese water dogs.
8. Wichita, Kansas.
9. AB negative.
10. James.
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Asian desert
- 5 Weep loudly
- 9 Swiss peak
- 12 Mideast gulf
- 13 "Night" author Wiesel
- 14 Life story
- 15 Pantheon members
- 16 Quest
- 17 Director Howard
- 18 Region
- 19 Texter's "Wow!"
- 20 Full house, e.g.
- 21 Dolphins' org.
- 23 Here (Fr.)
- 25 Used a hoe
- 28 Put a price on
- 32 Dole out
- 33 Stage
- 34 Show bad posture
- 36 Creatures
- 37 Your
- 38 Ornate vase
- 39 Corn castoffs
- 42 Tavern
- 44 Party pooper
- 48 Small battery
- 49 Ireland
- 50 Theater box
- 51 Norm (Abbr.)
- 52 Swampy terrain
- 53 Portent



DOWN

- 1 Quite enthusiastic
- 2 Bloodhound's clue
- 3 Eliot's "Adam --"
- 4 Important details
- 5 Observe
- 6 Grad
- 7 Improvise
- 8 Allow
- 9 Start of a spell
- 10 King of the jungle
- 11 Frogs' hangout
- 20 Everywhere
- 22 Command to Fido
- 24 Prank
- 25 "Now, where -- I?"
- 26 Right angle
- 27 "Xanadu" band
- 29 Cooking fuel
- 30 Ballpark fig.
- 31 -- Moines
- 35 Cross
- 36 Stovetop feature
- 39 Mama -- Elliot
- 40 Swearword
- 41 Commanded
- 43 Suffixed for billion
- 45 "Arrivederci --"
- 46 On in years
- 47 Actor Hackman
- 49 Punk-rock subgenre

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* In the early 1990s, cyclists who doped at the Tour De France used so much erythropoietin that they had to exercise throughout the night to avoid having heart attacks in their sleep.

* Pringles once tried to evade a hefty tax payment by claiming their product wasn't potato chips.

* Do bears appreciate beauty like us humans? Some wildlife experts think so, as there have been many sightings of the animals sitting at scenic points and staring out at vistas of mountains, rivers, etc. They appear to have no other purpose there than enjoying the view!

* Humans are more likely to die at around 11 a.m. than any other time of day.

* Who needs Harry Potter? Not the city of Christchurch in New Zealand. Until 2021, the city paid Ian Brackenbury Channell \$16,000 a year to act as a state-appointed wizard. His duties? To perform "acts of wizardry and other wizard-like services" for two decades.

* In the first few centuries of the Christian Era, controversy over whether or not Jesus was divine at birth created political and social unrest that frequently resulted in full-scale warfare.

* Some DVD copies of "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" include a subtitle track called "Subtitles for People Who Don't Like the Film," comprised of lines from Shakespeare's "Henry IV Part 2" that vaguely match what the actors are saying.

Thought for the Day: "Few people know how to take a walk. The qualifications are endurance, plain clothes, old shoes, an eye for nature, good humor, vast curiosity, good speech, good silence and nothing too much." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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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.

4		9	19
	1		6
	8	0	13
11	15	12	

0	8	5
3	1	2
6	9	4

Solution

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1790:** THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS RELOCATES FROM NEW YORK TO PHILADELPHIA.
- **1917:** FINLAND DE-CLARES INDEPENDENCE FROM THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.
- **1999:** THE RECORDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA SUES THE FILE-SHARING SERVICE NAPSTER OVER COPYRIGHT ISSUES.



THESE SWEET FOODS ARE KNOWN AS BISCUITS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD.

ANSWER: COOKIES

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

LOOCAETCH HPCI

Answer: Chocolate chip



CREAM

to mix together butter and another ingredient until creamy

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Cookie

SPANISH: Galleta

ITALIAN: Dolcetto

FRENCH: Biscuit

GERMAN: Kekes

Did you know?

"SESAME STREET" IS A POPULAR CHILDREN'S TELEVISION SHOW THAT FEATURES A MONSTER WHO REALLY LOVES COOKIES.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: GINGERBREAD COOKIE

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LOCAL AND AREA

Becoming a prisoner of hope

God is good. And He has a good plan for each of our lives. No matter what may be going on right now, God's plan is unfolding. In the meantime, Romans 12:12 tells us to "be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (NIV).

I think that's good advice, especially in times when it feels like we've been waiting and waiting...and waiting for something to happen in our lives. Hope is vital in times like these and it will keep us looking ahead, anticipating, expecting whatever it is we're hoping for.

Over the years I've learned how to lock

myself up in a prison of hope, knowing that God has nothing but His best planned for me. He promised me things concerning my ministry and my life. And hope is what helped me hold on in those early years when it got hard.

Anticipation

I remember when it was just three weeks into my marriage to Dave and he asked me one day, "What's wrong with you? You have such a negative attitude!" And I said, "Well, if you don't expect anything good to happen, then you won't be disappointed when it doesn't." That was how I felt based on past ex-

periences. I had a very negative outlook on life, so I spoke negatively about it.

This is the way I used to live...before I became a prisoner of hope. As I grew in my relationship with God, I learned how to trust Him, how to believe His Word, and how to stand my ground in prayer when it got tough. Today my outlook on life is completely different from what it was many years ago. Now I enjoy my life and I encourage others to enjoy theirs as well.

Jesus died for us to live an abundant, fulfilling life (John 10:10). And hope is the confident, favorable expectation of the life we can have in Him.

Double for Your Trouble

Now, I do realize there are many things that can happen to us that aren't so enjoyable. And that can make it difficult to grasp the idea of enjoying life. So, think of it this way: What are you hoping for? What are you expecting in life? What are you looking forward to? Focus on that.

My negative outlook was due to my attitude about all the bad things that had happened to me. I was stuck in the pain of my past, so I didn't believe anything good would happen in my future. Because of all of the negative things that had happened, I was programmed to believe that negative things would



always happen, and I lost hope.

Well, God knew all about my past and how it had affected me. And He kept loving me and dealing with me, promising me what Isaiah 61:7 says: "Instead of your shame you will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance. And so you will inherit a double portion in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours" (NIV).

That's an amazing promise for us all — a promise of double for your trouble! Double the blessing...double the joy...double the peace! Now doesn't that inspire hope in your heart?

Of course, this double-blessing promise isn't for the double-minded. When you walk it out in everyday life, there will be times when doubt, fear, unbelief and weariness will come against you. It's in these times you will need to fight a good fight of faith. You will need to guard your mind against negativity about your situation. I encourage you to find out what God says about it and then stand on the promises in His Word.

The Bible tells of many times when people encountered Jesus and He touched their lives, and how they wanted to stay with Him and follow Him. But He sent them home—back to everyday life—to live out and share with others what He'd done for them.

They had to hold on to what He had done for them. And in the same way, we must hold on to whatever He promises us and be confident that He is working in our situation. Hope releases the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives during these times.

Hope

I want to encourage you to make a decision to cultivate an attitude of hope in your life. Speak positive things about your future and refuse to be negative. You may not always feel hopeful but don't give in to your feelings. Catering to bad feelings feeds and empowers them. But standing our ground and not giving in to negative feelings starves them and causes them to lose their power over us.

Just ask the Holy Spirit to lead you. Line your will up with His and get

excited about serving God. You could become a person who inspires others to become prisoners of hope!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-teaching resource Filled with Hope. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

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

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No. 1108
(Nov. 16, 23, 30, 2022)

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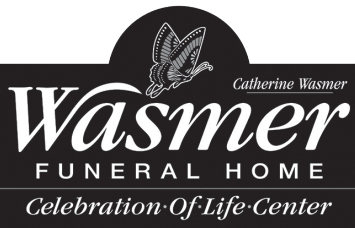
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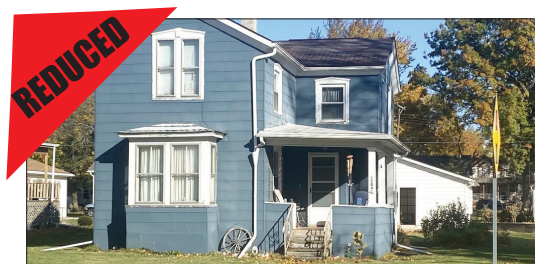
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