



# FAIRS, FESTIVALS AND SUMMER FUN



**A special section of The Amboy News, The Ashton Gazette and The Mendota Reporter  
Wednesday, June 1, 2022**



## Railroad Crossing & Country Fair Day is June 18 in Mendota

MENDOTA – The annual Railroad Crossing & Country Fair Day will be held on Saturday, June 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Union Depot Railroad Museum and the Breaking the Prairie Museum. The Mendota Museum & Historical Society is planning a fun day with displays and activities for all ages.



The tours of the museums and vintage rail cars include the Milwaukee Combine Car, the IL Central Mail Storage Car, the Golden Trencher Dining car, the 4978 Steam Locomotive and the CB&Q Caboose. MMHS volunteers work hard to keep the rail cars and depot museum in great shape. Remember to visit the agricultural artifacts and reminisce the days of long ago while viewing the Phaeton horse-drawn buggy or the 100-year-old horse-drawn sleigh.

Special demonstrations this year will include the RR letter wax sealers by Jim Schlosser. There will also be vintage pick-up trucks from the area on display at the Breaking the Prairie Museum. The Old West Register Cowboys will be joining in for the day so always be on guard in case of a train robbery.

Children can enjoy a ride on the Rail Speeder Car and the Strow Street Train. They also can blow the rail air horns, make rope and shell corn. Stroll the event while listening to the sounds of the NIBA Bluegrass music.

Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with proceeds to the Historical Society. BPW group will serve delicious homemade desserts in the Dining Car. Tasty lemonade shake-ups will be served by a local Boy Scout Troop. The winning 50/50 raffle ticket will be drawn at 3:30 p.m.



The Mendota YMCA offers Summer Adventure Camp and YMCA Day Camp for children that run for five and 10-weeks, respectively.

## Mendota YMCA ready for summer fun

MENDOTA – The Mendota Area YMCA is ready for another exciting and fun summer.

Summer Adventure Camp and YMCA Day Camp begin in June. Summer Adventure Camp runs for five weeks from June 6 to July 7 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday with Fridays used for rain days. There will be a Summer Adventure Camp Pool Party on Friday, July 8 from 10 a.m. to noon.

The YMCA Day Camp runs for 10 weeks from June 6 to Aug. 11 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Day Campers will also participate in Summer Adventure Camp for its duration, and the pool party. After Summer Adventure Camp concludes, YMCA Day Campers will go on field trips once a week. Campers from both programs are invited to be participants of the Mendota Area YMCA's appearance in the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival Parade, Sunday, Aug. 14.

There will be other youth



pop-up programs throughout the summer depending on weather. A repeat of last year's Water Wars is in the works, Wiffle Ball Night, as well as Parents' Nights

Out with various themes. Stay tuned to the Mendota Area YMCA and Mendota YMCA Day Camp social media for more information on summer fun events.

Sweet Home Lamoille--Home of Buffalo Days

# LAMOILLE BUFFALO DAYS

June 10-12, 2022

### THURSDAY, JUNE 9

5:00-7:00 Paint the Town  
 \$5/Gurney Street (behind bank)  
 (Rae 910-7711 / Ashley 878-7909)

### FRIDAY, JUNE 10

4:00 Food, Beer Tent Opens

4:00-8:00 Bounce All Around  
 (Wristbands \$10)

5:00 TACO DINNER (\$) – Park Shelter

5:30 Baby Buff Winners Announced,  
 Allen School

6:00 Prairie Princess, Allen School  
 (Mara 579-1833)

6:00 5K Stampede, High School

7:00 History of LaMoille by : Neil  
 Drummer Hal Adkins & Jayson  
 Tuntland, Congregational Church

### FIREWORKS AT DUSK

8:00-12:00 Music by **SNAPSHOT** -  
 Beer Tent

11:00 Egg Sandwiches

### SATURDAY, JUNE 11

8:00 Tractor Show (Munro 303-1960)

10:00-4:00 Vendor Fair (Amber 951-

543-7625)

10:00 Food, Beer Opens

10:00 Parade Registration – HS  
 Parking Lot

11:00 Main Street Parade (Jeremy  
 343-6848 / Brian 200-2899)

12:00-8:00 Bounce All Around  
 (Wristbands \$10)

12:00-4:00 Silent Auction

12:00 Adult Waterfights Registration,  
 Sheldon Street by Park

1:00 Adult Waterfights

1:00-4:00 Kids Fun Fair (Not Included  
 in Wristband)

1:00-4:00 Kids Foam Party (Included  
 in Wristband)

1:00 Measner Magic Show, Park  
 Kiddie Tractor Pulls, Park

3:00 Measner Magic Show, Park

4:00-7:00 MUSIC by **THE JERRY  
 MENZEL BAND** - Beer Tent

8:00-12:00 MUSIC by **GREENFIELD  
 STATION** - Beer Tent

11:00 Egg Sandwiches

### SUNDAY, JUNE 12

10:00 Community Church service  
 provided by Lutheran Church,  
 location: TBA

10:30 Sign Up Bags Tournament Beer  
 Tent (Kari 878-5858)

11:00 Food, Beer Opens

Bags Tournament begins  
 Kiddie Waterfights Registration,  
 Sheldon St.

11:30 Kiddie Waterfights, Sheldon St.

1:00 Kids Bags Tournament

1:00-6:00 MUSIC by **RODEO DRIVE**  
 - Beer Tent

2:00 Live Auction

4:30 50/50 Drawing



Complete listing of events: [www.lamoillebuffalodays.org](http://www.lamoillebuffalodays.org)

Or call for more information: 815-878-5858



# Mendota's 75th Annual Sweet Corn Festival

August 11-14, 2022



## FREE ADMISSION! FREE PARKING! FREE ENTERTAINMENT!

Carnival Mega Pass - Ride All Day, Every Day! Ride Thursday through Sunday from open until close with a Mega Pass!

### Saturday and Sunday

Crafter's Marketplace & Flea Market -  
Lots of vendors in two locations.  
Veteran's Park on Rt. 34 in downtown  
Mendota and the Elks Club parking lot  
on Indiana Ave. & Jefferson St.  
just 1/2 block north of Veteran's Park.

### Grand Parade at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 14

Tons of FREE Hot, Buttered, Delicious  
Sweet Corn Served Sunday, Aug. 14  
at 2 p.m., at the intersection of  
Illinois Ave. & Jefferson St.

### Sweet Corn 50/50 Raffle

Sweet Corn Festival 50/50 Tickets for the 2022  
festival are now on sale!

In 2021 we had a pot of \$30,718 and the winner took  
home \$15,359. Our goal is to hopefully give  
away at least \$10,000!!

ONLINE TICKET SALES WILL END AT MIDNIGHT  
ON SUNDAY, AUG. 7. FOR THE REST OF THE  
WEEK TICKETS WILL ONLY BE  
FOR SALE IN PERSON.

On site sales will conclude on  
Sunday, Aug. 14, at 4pm.

The winner will be drawn live on Sunday, Aug. 14.



## Full slate of family-fun activities on tap at Amboy Depot Days

AMBOY — The 2022 Annual Amboy Depot Days offers something for everyone. This year's festival runs Aug. 25-28.

The annual festival kicks off on Thursday night in downtown Amboy with the opening of the food stand and carnival. Thursday night is family night and arm bands are \$20 for unlimited rides for this spe-

cial night. The Depot Days Little Dancers will take the Main Stage at 6:30 p.m. The Miss Amboy and Little Miss Amboy pageant will begin at 7 p.m. with the crowing of the new Miss Amboy at 8:30 p.m.

On Friday at 8 a.m., the community wide garage sales and the vendor booths downtown open for business. The food stands open

at 10 a.m. and the carnival will open at 6 p.m. The carnival special for Friday night is \$20 bands for unlimited rides. The free concert on the Main Stage is The Neversly Brothers, sponsored by Shell Oil, performing from 7-9 p.m. The Knights of Columbus is again hosting a beer garden from 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., where Burn N Bush will be performing.

Saturday morning kicks off bright and early at 8 a.m., when the annual Amboy Education Foundation Sylvan Shuffle Adult 5K Run/Walk begins. The Amboy Farm Tractor Show will be held in downtown Amboy from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Also open in downtown Amboy at 8 a.m. will be the vendor booths. The community wide garage sales will open at 8 a.m. The food stands open at 10 a.m. and the KC Beer Garden opens at 11 a.m.

Kids will have a chance to meet and greet Princess Merida and Minions at the Pankhurst Memorial Library from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The carnival opens at noon on Saturday and from noon to 3 p.m., they will offer an arm band special of \$20 for unlimited rides. A kids' foam party will be held in the Depot Museum parking lot from 1-3 p.m. Whimsy Face Painting will be on hand in the Depot Parking lot decorating faces for free from 2 – 4 p.m.

The annual Amboy Lions Depot Days parade will step off at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The annual Teen Turf Donkey Drop will be held at 5 p.m., near Amboy Sporting Goods.

Alika Arlynn will take the Main Stage for a free



The 50/50 raffle is a popular part of Depot Days, with the winner oftentimes taking home a six-figure prize.

concert from 7- 9 p.m., sponsored by KSB Hospital. The final act of the evening is live music of Class Field Trip in the KC Beer Garden from 9 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Sunday morning begins at 6 a.m. with the opening of registration for the 31st annual Depot Days Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show.

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake breakfast from 6:30 – 10 a.m., at the beer garden.

At 8 a.m., the downtown

vendors and community wide garage sales open for business. The food stands open at 10 a.m.

Judging for the annual car show begins at 11:30 a.m.

At noon, the KC Beer Garden opens and the carnival will offer an arm band special of \$20 for unlimited rides from noon to 4 p.m.

The Depot Days car show awards will be presented at 3 p.m., followed by the 50/50 raffle winner drawn.

## Looking for something to do?

### Here's just a few of the FUN things going on in Lee County, IL!

#### June 12

Ashton Lions Club Car Show

#### June 30 - July 3

Dixon Petunia Festival

#### July 28-31

Lee County 4-H Fair & Jr. Show, Lee County 4-H Center  
Amboy

#### Aug. 6

Harvest Festival & Big Rig Show  
Franklin Grove

#### Aug. 6-7

Living History Antique Equipment Association Show  
Franklin Grove

#### Aug. 25-28

Amboy Depot Days & Car Show

#### Sept. 4-5

Paw Paw Lions Club Labor Day Celebration & Car Show

#### Sept. 17

Autumn on the Prairie  
Nachusa Grasslands, Franklin Grove

*Dates may be subject to change.*

 Find us on Facebook! "Lee County Illinois Tourism"

  
LEE COUNTY  
TOURISM COUNCIL

Call us for more information at  
815-288-1840 or visit us online for a  
full, up-to-date listing of events.

[leecountyfun.com](http://leecountyfun.com)



The Depot Days car show draws vehicles and crowds from far away on the final day of the festival.





One of the most popular attractions of the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival is what the festival is named after - sweet corn. The line to get the free delight often stretches more than a block long.

## Mendota Sweet Corn Festival marks 75th anniversary in '22

MENDOTA – Tons of free, hot, buttered, delicious sweet corn will be the highlight of the 75th annual Sweet Corn Festival to be held in Mendota on August 11-14.

The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce is preparing for the gigantic undertaking of hosting over 60,000 visitors, who consume over 50 tons of sweet corn during the festival weekend.

Don't miss the excitement as the festival offers a variety of entertainment events for the entire family. The events take place primarily in the downtown area, and with the exception of the beer garden, have no admission fees or parking fees.

Free musical entertainment is in abundance. The Crafters Market Place and Flea Market features dealers



in hand-made crafts and unique merchandise. There is a Queen Pageant, beer garden with live bands, grand parade and a carnival with rides and games for both adults and children, plus much more.

The midways are lined with food booths, featuring a multitude of ethnic, regional and festival foods, but the "BIG EVENT" is the serving of the free Del Monte sweet corn on Sun-

day afternoon. For over 70 years, it has been cooked to its golden goodness with the help of a vintage steam engine.

The good times are waiting, the welcome mat is out, come to Mendota for one of the Midwest's oldest and largest harvest festivals, the 75th annual Sweet Corn Festival.

For more information, visit [www.sweetcornfestival.com](http://www.sweetcornfestival.com).

## Buffalo burgers return to Buffalo Days, June 10-12

LaMOILLE – LaMoille Buffalo Days is scheduled for June 10-12, and the famous buffalo burgers are back.

The celebration will kick off with a paint-the-town event from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, June 9.

The activities will ramp up on Friday, June 10 with food vendors and the beer tent opening at 4 p.m. A taco dinner will be served starting at 5 p.m., Baby Buff winners will be announced at 5:30 and the Prairie Princess will take place at 6:00, as well as the 5K Stampede. A fireworks show is planned for dusk and music by 'Snapshot' will be provided from 8 p.m.-midnight in the

beer tent. There will also be plenty of activities for the children.

A tractor show will start the day at 8 a.m. Saturday. Other highlights of the day will be the parade at 11 a.m., adult waterfights at 1 p.m., and a kids' fun fair and foam party from 1-4 p.m. 'The Jerry Menzel Band' will perform in the beer tent from 4-7 and the sounds of 'Greenfield Station' can be heard from 8-midnight.

Among the events on the final day of Buffalo Days on Sunday will be a bags tournament at 11:00, kiddie waterfights at 11:30 and a kids' bags tournament at 1:00. Music by 'Rodeo Drive' will be provided from

1-6 p.m. in the beer tent. The festivities will wrap up with the announcement of the 50/50 drawing winner at 4:30.

A complete listing of events is available at [www.lamoillebuffalodays.org](http://www.lamoillebuffalodays.org).



### July 28-31

Lee Co. Fairgrounds,  
1196 Franklin Rd.,  
Amboy



## Lee Co. 4-H Fair & Jr. Show

the true county fair experience



[leecounty4hcenter.com](http://leecounty4hcenter.com)

(815) 857-2603



## Oglesby Fun Fest to feature music, carnival & lots more

OGLESBY—Oglesby Summer Fun Fest is scheduled for Thursday, June 16 through Sunday, June 19.

The carnival and midway will be open from 4-11 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 1-11 p.m. Saturday and 1-9 p.m. Sunday. Unlimited ride wristbands will be available for \$30.



A full lineup of musical entertainment will be on tap each day. On Thursday, Ethan Bell will be on stage from 6:30-8:30 p.m. followed by Ultimate Eric Church from 9-11 p.m. Scheduled to appear on Friday are the Neverly Brothers from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and TNT-Chicago from 9-11 p.m. Three bands will entertain the next two days. The lineup on Saturday will be Mario Data from 3-5 p.m., The Bread Machine from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Blank 281 from 8-11 p.m. On the final day of Fun Fest, music will be provided by Mario Data from 1-3 p.m., Blind Reality from 3:30-5:30 p.m. and 303 from 6-9 p.m.

Other Fun Fest highlights include a craft & vendor show (Friday, Saturday, Sunday), axe throwing and chainsaw carver (Saturday), party in the park (11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday) and fireworks (9 p.m. Sunday). Also, a 50/50 raffle will be conducted with the winning ticket to be drawn at 9 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, go to [oglesbyfunfest.com](http://oglesbyfunfest.com).

## Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival to go 'Through the Years' for 25th anniversary

ROCHELLE — The annual Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival is planned for the weekend of Aug. 19-21 in downtown Rochelle.

The event is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and this year's theme is "Through the Years," celebrating the past of LHHF. The festival will be back in full force this year after canceling in 2020 and holding a one-day event last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Every year it's wonderful to do the festival for the kids and families in our community," LHHF President Lisa Chrisco said. "We want to keep it going. COVID-19 slowed us down. Last year was an enjoyable day and we loved getting everyone out of their houses. We're going all out this year. This is the big 25. We want to showcase all the things we've done in the past."

There will be a carnival and beer garden for all three days of the event. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, a vendor basket raffle, craft, vendor and business booths, a food court and various local talents performing each day.

Friday, Aug. 19 will feature the Little Miss Peanut competition from 6-7 p.m. and Soul 2 Soul from 8-10 p.m.

On Saturday, Aug. 20, the Hub City Cruisers Car and Motorcycle Show will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. with the raising of the flag at noon. There will be a pancake breakfast along with a free kids zone. Rochelle Performing Arts will perform from 10-11 a.m. The Moose's haunted maze will be open from 4-9 p.m. Class Field Trip will be from noon to 1 p.m. Burn-n-Bush will perform



The Hub City Cruisers Car & Motorcycle Show will be held Saturday, Aug. 20.

from 2-4 p.m., followed by Project Nostalgia from 5-7 p.m. and Hi Infidelity from 8-10 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 21 will start with a pancake breakfast and church service. From 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Magic Matt's Family Fun Show will be strolling the festival grounds. Ballet Folklorico Xochicquetzal will be on the main stage from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. There will be an old-fashioned ice cream social. The parade will begin at 1 p.m. After the parade, hacky sack world record holder Andy Linder will be strolling the festival grounds. The Beaux Band will perform from 4-6 p.m. and the Moose's haunted maze will be open again from 2-5 p.m.

Chrisco said during last year's one day event with "just the basics," the community came out to support

Lincoln Highway  
Heritage Festival  
Aug. 19-21 in  
downtown Rochelle

the event. She looks forward to seeing more this year.

"I really do feel like people are going to come out this year," Chrisco said. "The idea of being able to have the community out and enjoying everything this year for a weekend feels grand to me personally. We want our businesses to benefit from it too and we look forward to everyone having a good time."

The LHHF president credited the committee for its work on this year's event so far. She said the event always needs volunteers

and asked if anyone wants to volunteer, they reach out at [facebook.com/lincoln-highwayheritagefestival](http://facebook.com/lincoln-highwayheritagefestival) or at [LHHFest.com](http://LHHFest.com).

"I've done this for a lot of years," Chrisco said. "We always ask for miracles and people to step up and volunteer. The festival always seems to happen with the few volunteers we have. It's always been about and for our community. We couldn't ask for a better committee. They've put a lot of time and effort into this. It will be 25 years of where we've been. And where we're going."

## KIDS FISHING RODEO

OPTIMIST CLUB  
OF MENDOTA

Kids ages 3-15 are welcome. Every child wins a prize, and receives a hot dog, chips and a drink for lunch.

Sunday, June 9th  
Lake Mendota

Registration  
10:00 am - 11:00 am

Fishing  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Serving area youth for over 37 years!





2022



June  
16-19

# SUMMER FUN FEST

## All Entertainment and Parking Is FREE

*Thursday, June 16th*

4 to 11 p.m.  
Carnival and Midway  
Unlimited ride wristbands just \$30

6:30 – 8:30  
p.m.  
Neverly  
Brothers



Free Children's  
Activities in the  
Park



3:30 – 5:30  
p.m.  
Blind Reality  
1992



5 to 11 p.m.  
Food Booths - Beer Garden  
50/50 tickets on sale

6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Ethan Bell



9 - 11 p.m.  
Ultimate Eric  
Church



9 - 11 p.m.  
TNT - Chicago  
(ACDC)



3 - 5 p.m.  
Ladd Sound  
Productions



6 - 9 p.m.  
303

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
The Bread Machine

8-11 p.m.  
Blank 281

9 p.m.  
50/50 Drawing  
Support Oglesby's  
special events and  
have a chance at a  
huge cash jackpot!



*Friday, June 17th*

8 a.m.  
City wide Yard sales  
Maps available at  
Oglesby Library, City  
Hall and Casey's



*Saturday, June 18th*

8 a.m.  
City wide Yard sales  
Maps available at  
Oglesby Library, City  
Hall and Casey's



12 to 6 p.m.  
Craft & Vendor Show

1 to 11 p.m.  
Food Booths - Beer  
Garden  
50/50 tickets on sale



*Sunday, June 19th*

12 to 6 p.m.  
Craft & Vendor  
Show

1 to 9 p.m.  
Carnival and Midway  
Unlimited ride wristbands just \$30

1 to close  
Food Booths - Beer  
Garden  
50/50 tickets on sale

1 - 3 p.m.  
Ladd Sound Productions



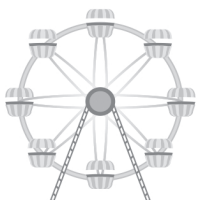
9:30 p.m.  
Fireworks Show



5 to 11 p.m.  
Food Booths - Beer  
Garden  
50/50 tickets on  
sale

5 to 9 p.m.  
Craft & Vender Show

1 to 11 p.m.  
Carnival and  
Midway  
Unlimited ride  
wristbands just  
\$30



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[oglesbyfunfest.com](http://oglesbyfunfest.com)

Parking is Free and Plentiful! Unless otherwise noted, all activities are held on the grounds surrounding the municipal pool. No gate or entry fee required. Bring lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy our free entertainment. Due to the nature of theatrical acts, attractions are subject to change.

Like us on  
**facebook**





## SUMMER FUN at

**Graves-Hume  
Public Library**  
1401 W. Main Street  
Mendota  
815-538-51423

### Friday, July 8, 6 PM - Summer Reading Kick-Off

Dan Gogh's Magical Camp Adventure. Looking for a magical escape? Experience the great outdoors in this one-of-a-kind variety show! Artist Dan Gogh will be your guide for engaging camp activities, including searching for magical survival equipment and amazing nature discoveries. Wander off the beaten path and join Dan Gogh where magic, comedy and art are all part of the adventure!

### Monday, July 11, 3PM- Afternoon Movie "Parent Trap" PG

(1998 version) Join us for an afternoon movie!

### Tuesday, July 12, 6:30 PM - Live Music

Be entertained as Steve Justm an takes us through "The History of American County Music". Bring your lawn chairs and blankets for an evening of music on the Library lawn.

### Friday, July 15, 6 PM - Family Outing

Join us for a family-fun night at the Library. We'll have a snow cone machine, 2 bounce houses and face painting! Special thanks to Mendota High School's Interact Club for volunteering their time and expertise in face painting!

### Monday, July 18, 6PM- Afternoon Movie "Race for Your Life Charlie Brown" G

Join us for an afternoon movie!

### Friday, July 22, 6 PM - Family Outing

Join us for a family-fun night at the Library. We'll have Axe Adventure. Adults can try their hand at throwing axes. The Mendota YCMA will be here offering kid-friendly activities. Friends of the Library will offer drinks and snacks for families. Also, Taco Guzman food truck will be available for you to buy your own food. Bring cash if you want tacos!

### Monday, July 25, 3PM - "Daddy Day Camp" PG

Join us for an afternoon movie!

### Friday, July 29, 6 PM - Summer Reading Club Finale

Mary Macaroni's Music & Magic Show with Instrument Petting Zoo. Mary Macaroni is back and ready to entertain us once again with her fun, silly & quirky show. Summer Reading Club prize winners will be announced at this event.

Programs are for free to attend and are geared toward all ages.

No Library card required.

No registration.

The community's destination for discovery, learning and making connections.



**For more  
information**

## Petunia Festival is fun for the whole family

DIXON – The annual Dixon Petunia Festival will take place June 29-July 4 in downtown Dixon and on the riverfront.

The festival promises to have something for the entire family. Among the events at this year's festival are a bags tournament, Bingo, Cruise In Style Car Show, carnival by North American Midway Entertainment, lots of musical entertainment, Family Fun Night, fireworks, parade, volleyball tournament, Art in the Park, craft and vendor show, Dixon Athletic Boosters pancakes in the park, Elks fishing derby, ice cream social/municipal band concert, tennis tournament, Old Settlers Log Cabin, Reagan 5K run/walk, Disc Golf, Community Worship, service and tours of the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home and Visitor Center.

It all began in the late 1950s when a combination of Dutch Elm disease and major highway expansion caused the removal of all trees along the community's major roadways. The Dixon



Men's Garden Club, which for several years had worked on small flower beds scattered throughout the city, decided to do something about the barren look of the highway approaches. In 1960 and 1961, the club planted 4,000 petunias along both sides of about one-half mile of the principal north-south route, South Galena Avenue. The next year, the club members put

6,000 more petunias on the three-quarters of a mile of North Galena Avenue.

Today, the plantings have spread out to other approaches to the city and now extend along principal streets. Most of Dixon's 15,000 residents have taken part in one way or another.

For more specific information about this year's festival, log on to [www.petuniasfestival.org](http://www.petuniasfestival.org).

## Lee Co. 4-H Fair & Jr. Show July 28-31

AMBOY – The 2022 Lee Co. 4-H Fair & Jr. Show is July 28-31 at the Lee Co. 4-H Center & Fairgrounds, 1196 Franklin Road, Amboy. The four-day event is a throwback to the old-time county fair with a petting zoo, pony rides, face painting, midway of games, bounce houses, a barrel train, axe throwing and the County Fair Speedway.

The Lee County Fair Association is also accepting entries for the 2022 Jr. Show. The Jr. Show is open to youth ages 8 to 20, as of Sept. 1, 2021. Project departments include all livestock and small animals, as well as visual arts, mechanical

sciences and crops. Visual arts projects can be any art project created using paper, fiber, metal, mixed media, cake decorating, natural materials, etc. Mechanical sciences projects include model rocketry, electricity projects, woodworking and computer work. Youth need not be 4-H members to participate. Visit [www.leecounty4hcenter.com](http://www.leecounty4hcenter.com) to find the online entry form and department and class descriptions. Entries are due July 1.

Grandstand events include tractor, garden tractor and truck pulls, and a rodeo. New this year are donkey races on Sunday, July 31. Only 50 riders can partic-

ipate, so pre-registration is encouraged. A form can be found on the website.

Returning to the fair schedule on Sunday, July 31 is the Marketplace featuring local crafters, artisans, farmer's market vendors, and home-based business products. The Marketplace is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Spaces are available. Contact the fair office via Facebook or at (815) 857-2603.

A full fair schedule and more information about other great fair activities and events is posted at [www.leecounty4hcenter.com](http://www.leecounty4hcenter.com) or like "Lee Co. 4-H Fair & Jr. Show" on Facebook or Instagram for the latest information.





# Amboy Depot Days

## AUGUST 25, 26, 27 & 28

### Amboy, IL [depotdays.com](http://depotdays.com)

### Thursday, August 25

#### “Family Night”

- 5pm-10pm Food Stands open
- 6pm-10pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds  
“Family Night Special” Arm Bands \$20 for unlimited rides
- 6:30pm Depot Days Little Dancers-on Main Stage
- 7pm Miss Amboy Pageant & Little Miss Amboy
- 8:30pm Announcement of Miss Amboy

### Friday, August 26

- 8am-4pm Community Wide Garage Sales
- 8am-5pm Craft Booths - Downtown
- 10am-10pm Food Stands open - Depot Museum Grounds
- 6pm-10pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds. Arm bands \$20.00 for unlimited rides.
- 7pm-9pm The Neverly Brothers on Main Stage. FREE. Sponsored by Shell Oil
- 9:30pm – 1am K.C.'s Beer Garden: Burn-N-Bush

### Saturday, August 27

- 8:00am Sylvan Shuffle Adult 5K Run/Walk sponsored by Amboy Education Foundation. Register at [www.amboy.net](http://www.amboy.net)
- 8am-1pm Semi Big Rig Show and Amboy Farm Tractor. Downtown Amboy.
- 8am-5pm Community Wide Garage Sales
- 8am-5pm Craft Booths - Downtown
- 10am-10pm Food Stands open - Depot Museum Grounds
- 11am-1am K.C. Beer Garden: South of Bandstand
- 11am-1pm Kids Meet & Greet Princess Merida and Minions at Pankhurst Memorial Library, 3 S. Jefferson Ave.
- Noon-3pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds Arm bands \$20.00 for unlimited rides
- 1pm-3pm Kids Foam Party, Depot Museum Parking Lot

### Saturday, August 27

- 2pm-4pm Whimsy Face Painting. Free Kids Event (Depot Parking Lot)
- 3pm Depot Days Parade Sponsored by the Amboy Area Lions Club  
[www.amboylionsclub.com](http://www.amboylionsclub.com) to sign up
- 5pm Teen Turf Donkey Drop-Chance to win \$\$  
857-4800 (located by Amboy Sporting Goods)
- 7pm-9pm Alike ArylInn on Main Stage. FREE Sponsored by KSB Hospital
- 9pm-1am K.C. Beer Garden: Class Field Trip

### Sunday, August 28

- 6am-3pm 31st Annual Depot Days Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show — Downtown Amboy.
- 6:30-10am Pancake Breakfast: Knights of Columbus, at the Beer Garden
- 8am-4pm Crafts - Downtown Streets
- 8am-4pm Community Wide Garage Sales
- 10am-4pm Food Stands Open
- 11:30am Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show Judging
- Noon-5pm Downtown Amboy  
K.C. Beer Garden: South of the Bandstand
- Noon-4pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds. Arm bands \$20.00 for unlimited rides.
- 3pm Depot Days Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show Awards Presentation & 50/50 Drawing. Main Stage by Depot Museum

#### DAILY INFORMATION

FREE SHUTTLE on Sunday. Park at Amboy School, 11 E. Hawley St.

First Aid & Cooling Center at the Lee County Farm Bureau, 37 S. East Avenue.

Food Stands & Restrooms are open all weekend on Depot Grounds.

Community-Wide Garage Sales: Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8am-5pm. Garage sale maps available at City Hall or the information booth.

Museums open for viewing. Stop in and enjoy a little of Amboy's history. The Gift Shop will be open.

Car Show Registration and information - Contact Garth Dallam 815/857-2946. [www.amboycarshow.com](http://www.amboycarshow.com)

#### NO PETS ALLOWED

**Thank you to our Event Sponsors**  
**Johnson Oil Company**  
**KSB**

Amboy's Depot Days is presented to benefit the Amboy Depot Museum. Your support is greatly appreciated. The Depot Days Committee wishes to give a special thank you to the many people who volunteer their time, energy and funds to ensure the success of Depot Days.

Carnival sponsored by Amboy Area Chamber of Commerce

**Plenty of FREE parking is available!**  
**Thank you for joining us!**

#### INFORMATION BOOTHS

Information Booth (50/50 tickets available).  
On West Main St. in front of First Federal.



## FIND YOUR FUN. FIND YOUR Y.



### Day Camp

**Boys & Girls, Ages 4-12**  
**June 6-August 11 Monday-Friday**  
**8:00am-4:00pm**  
**Weekly Rate: Y Member / Non Member**

1st Child	\$125	\$160
2nd Child	\$110	\$145
3rd Child	\$100	\$135
4th Child	\$90	\$125
Daily Rate:	\$30	\$45
2-Day Rate:	\$60	\$75
3-Day Rate:	\$80	\$95

**\*Scholarships available\***

**Registration due Friday**  
**June 4, 2022**

**For a better us.®**

**Find YOUR Y AT**  
**MENDOTA YMCA**  
**ENROLL TODAY**

8155382900 [mendotay@iyvmca.org](mailto:mendotay@iyvmca.org)  
[iyvmca.org/mendota-ymca/](http://iyvmca.org/mendota-ymca/)



### Tri-County Fair planned for Labor Day weekend

MENDOTA – The Mendota Tri-County Fair will again provide fun for the whole family with outstanding entertainment, food, and fun over Labor Day weekend, Aug. 31-Sept. 5. Located on South First Avenue in Mendota, this is the only fair in Illinois offering free gate admission and free parking every day of the event.

The tentative schedule for this year's fair includes:

**Wednesday, Aug. 31**

5-7 p.m. - Floral Hall entries brought to the fair for judging and display

**Thursday, Sept. 1**

9 a.m.-9 p.m. - Floral Hall judging - building will be closed during judging

5 p.m. – Preview

7 p.m. – Vintage Stock Car Racing

**Friday, Sept. 2**

3 p.m. - Gates Open for 2022 Fair

7 p.m. - Grandstand Entertainment: Illini State Pullers Tractor Truck Pull

Beer Garden

**Saturday, Sept. 3**

3 p.m. – Gates open

7 p.m. - Grandstand Entertainment: MegaX Shootout Series

Beer Garden

**Sunday, Sept. 4**

3 p.m. – Gates open

5 p.m. - Grandstand Entertainment: Stock Car Racing on half-mile track

7 p.m. – John King Concert

Beer Garden

**Monday, Sept. 5**

8:30-10 a.m. - Project Release in Exhibit Hall

Noon – Gates open

3 p.m. - Labor Day Demolition Derby in Grandstand

Check for updates of events by visiting the fair's Facebook page, Mendota's Tri County Fair. Premium books will be available on the Facebook page after June 15.



## The Neveryly Brothers rock & roll tribute to perform at Amboy Depot Days

AMBOY – Amboy Depot Days will welcome ‘The Neveryly Brothers’ band to the main stage from 7-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26. The band was formed in 2003 and is based in Chicago. ‘The Neveryly Brothers’ is a rock & roll tribute from Elvis to The Beatles.



to create this unique and powerful musical act. As a vocalist he is extremely versatile and equally effective singing either lead or backing harmony. His signature “electrified” acoustic guitar sound he developed for the act has also become a highlight and integral part of their sound. In addition to being a talented vocalist and guitarist, on stage Kevin fronts the band - assuming the role as the “virtual tour director.” By sprinkling the show with insightful bits of music trivia and history be-

tween songs, he adds more meaning and relevance to the music - giving concerts goers a new-found appreciation to songs and artists they’ve long been familiar with. These narrative footnotes add yet another unique facet to their one of a kind act. Kevin’s energy, showmanship, personality, strong vocals & aggressive guitar playing make him one of the most engaging and entertaining front men on the live circuit today - at the helm of one of the most potent and talented true rock n’ roll bands around.

• Kegham Giragosian – drums, vocals - Keg started his musical career in the early 1990s as the drummer and harmony vocalist for brother Kevin’s former band The Wombats. As a vocalist he is equally adept at handling

either lead or background harmony. When Kevin & Kegham sing those sweet two-part vocal harmonies, a la The Everly Brothers or John Lennon & Paul McCartney, you’ll find yourself saying: “Only brothers could harmonize like that!” As the drummer for The Neveryly Brothers, he has developed his own unique, energetic and visually entertaining playing style. He stands, not sits, behind a minimalist drum kit - consisting of only a bass drum and a snare drum – and swings his arms in windmill circles beating the snare drum with brushes - not sticks. Although it may look unorthodox, he lays down a solid beat and driving rhythm more powerful than most drummers using conventional 4 and 5 piece kits. His intuitive vocal

### Alika Arlynn playing Main Stage Aug. 27

AMBOY – Alika Arlynn is taking country to a whole new level. You can see and hear for yourself when she performs a free concert from 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27 on the main stage during Amboy Depot Days celebration.

Arlynn’s songs are uplifting, fun and inspirational. Her songs are the kind of songs that people of all ages can relate to. She sings about her story, her experiences and the relationships that have shaped her.

sensibilities and unique and animated drumming style make Keg an integral part of the signature “Neveryly” look and sound.

• Mike Bradburn - upright bass fiddle, background vocals – Mike has been a long-time veteran of the Chicago music scene for over 25 years. He continues to play upright bass fiddle and electric bass for several respected Chicago area bands – the majority of

the time with The Neveryly Brothers. Mike rounds out the vocal arrangements with his spot-on background vocal harmonies. As an upright bass player he has great musical sensibilities; knowing when to lay back in the pocket and when to drive the song with pulsating power. Always in sync with Keg on drums, Mike’s style helps to create a solid rhythm section that forms the foundation of the group’s sound.

# Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival

August 19, 20, & 21, 2022  
DOWNTOWN ROCHELLE



### EVENT LINE UP FOR THIS YEAR:

- Friday, August 19, 2022**  
8-10 PM - Soul 2 Soul  
6-7 PM - Little Miss Peanut
- Saturday, August 20, 2022**  
**8 AM-3 PM - Hub City Cruisers Car and Motorcycle Show**  
Pancake Breakfast  
FREE Kids Zone  
10-11 AM - Rochelle Performing Arts  
4-9 PM Haunted Maze (Moose)  
Noon-1 PM - Class Field Trip  
2-4 PM - Burn-n-Bush

- 5-7 PM - Project Nostalgia  
8-10 PM - Hi Infidelity
- Sunday, August 21, 2022**  
Pancake Breakfast  
Church Service  
11 AM-6 PM - Magic Matt’s Family Fun Show will be strolling the Festival grounds

- 11:30 AM-12:15 PM - Ballet Folklorico Xochiquetzal on the main stage  
Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social  
1 PM - Parade  
After Parade - **Andy Linder - Hacky Sack World Record Holder** - Strolling Festival Grounds  
4-6 PM - The Beaux Band  
2-5 PM Haunted Maze (Moose)

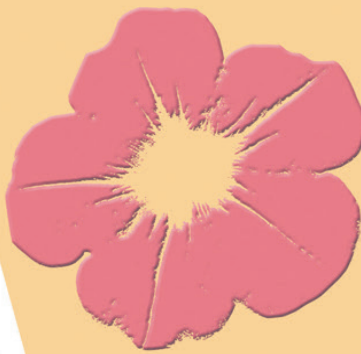
- ~ **50/50 Raffle** TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS!!!  
~ Vendor Basket Raffle  
~ Craft, Vendors & Business Booths  
~ Food Court  
~ Various Local Talents All Day  
~ Amusements (by A & A Amusements) & Beer Garden (location TBA)  
**ALL THREE DAYS**

“Through the Years”



Brought to you by:  
Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival





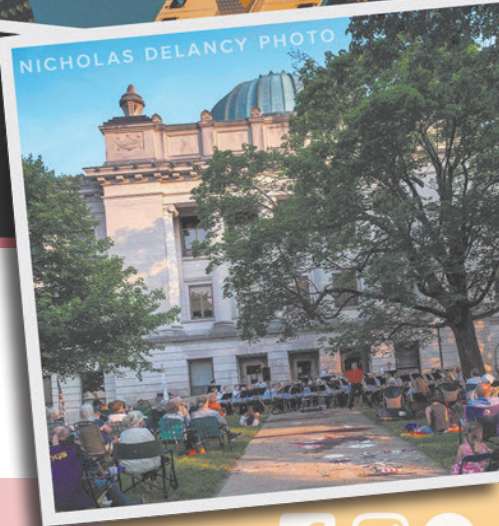
# PETUNIA FESTIVAL

BIG CITY FESTIVAL. SMALL-TOWN HEART  
**JUNE 30 - JULY 4**

Entertainment • Family Fun • Carnival • Car Show • Parade  
Fireworks • Municipal Band Concert • Brush and Bloom • Fishing Derby  
Bingo • Pancake Breakfast • Disc Golf Tournament  
Tennis Tournament • Reagan Run • Arts and Crafts Shows  
Volleyball Tournament • 50/50 Fundraiser • Food Vendors  
Ice Cream Social • Reagan Home Open • Old Settlers Cabin Open  
**AND MUCH MORE!**

Entry for the Festival Grounds will be  
**\$10 PER DAY**

Or **\$25** for 4 Nights of Entertainment!  
(Presale Until June 30<sup>th</sup>)



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT  
**WWW.PETUNIAFESTIVAL.ORG**

Thank you to our sponsors!



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