



Road work ahead
Traffic is backed up on Route 251 in Mendota as a road construction crew works on refinishing the roadway. Work includes road milling and resurfacing, and reconstruction of ADA sidewalk ramps. Traffic will be controlled by flaggers when workers are present and side streets may occasionally be closed for short periods of time. Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area, and be prepared for slow and stopped traffic. This \$1.9 million project is anticipated to be completed by the end of summer. (Reporter photo)

Illinois lifts public transportation face covering requirement

Local governments can still require masks

By GRACE KINNICUTT
Capitol News Illinois
SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker officially lifted the state requirement that face coverings be worn on public transportation after a federal judge overturned the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention mask mandate.

U.S. District Judge Kathryn Kimball Mizelle of the Middle District of Florida ruled on that the federal mask mandate was unlawful since it exceeds the authority of the CDC. The ruling comes about a week after the CDC extended the mask mandate through May 3.

Masks are no longer required on public transit, in public transit hubs or at airports, but local governments still have the right to maintain their own face covering requirements on public transportation.

Pritzker's order now only requires masks where they are federally mandated, as well as in congregate facilities and health care settings.

"I'm proud of the work our state has done to fight COVID-19 and protect our most vulnerable," Pritzker said in a news release. "I continue to urge Illinoisans to follow CDC guidelines and, most importantly, get vaccinated to protect yourself and others."

Following Pritzker's announcement on about revising mask requirements, the Chicago Metra and CTA announced that masks will no longer be required, effective immediately. The Chicago Department of Aviation,



which oversees O'Hare and Midway International airports, also announced that masks are no longer required.

A number of major U.S. airlines such as Delta, United and Southwest immediately dropped the requirement following the court ruling as well.

The CDC continues to recommend face coverings for those who are immunocompromised, people who can't be vaccinated and in areas of high transmission.

Amaal Tokars, acting director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, said in a news release that the department continues to closely monitor COVID-19 cases throughout the state and is working with local public health partners to keep the public informed.

More than 21 million vaccine doses have been administered with about 73 percent of Illinois residents age 5 and over fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

"The best way to protect yourself and your loved ones is to remain up-to-date on your vaccinations, and that includes booster shots, especially for those who are at risk for more severe health outcomes," Tokars said.

MHS staff members receive excellence awards

MENDOTA — The Mendota High School District 280 Board of Education handled numerous items of business during its regular monthly meeting on April 19.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Denise Aughenbaugh commended four staff members for being 2021-22 Regional Office of Education Excellence award recipients. Certified staff member recipients are Paula Baker (band), Kristi Barajas (special education) and Keegan Hill (special education). Support staff recipient is Patti Blumhorst (principal's office). They will be honored at the Excellence

in Education banquet in May.

• Money budgeted through Title 1 will allow the school to offer remedial summer school classes. Math, English and Science will be offered and the credit retrieval will be limited to 100 slots. The board hired the following employees to work/teach summer school: driver's education — Robert Nunn, Heath Raley, Aaron Sester, Brock Zinke; credit retrieval — Mel Sallee, Cody Zinke; paraprofessional support — Marisela Cervantes; summer school administrator — Brock Zinke. Driver's education will have approximately 75 students. Aughenbaugh also

noted that IVCC will offer multiple sections of summer speech at MHS in June.

• The board approved membership renewal with the Illinois High School Association. Membership entitles MHS to participate in post-season state series tournaments.

• The PSAT 9 and PSAT 10 assessments were administered on April 26. The last week of April will also have the online Illinois Science Assessment administered to juniors.

See Dist. 280, Page A5

Gov. Pritzker signs final first-term budget ahead of re-election push

By JERRY NOWICKI
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker signed his final first-term budget into law last week, a roughly \$46 billion spending plan buoyed by pandemic-driven revenue windfalls and a current-year surplus that helped the state pay down debts and offer temporary tax relief.



Gov. Pritzker

Between the three budget-related bills signed — House Bill 900, House Bill 4700 and Senate Bill 157 — as well as a supplemental appropriations bill Pritzker signed last month — Senate Bill 2803 — the plan includes

\$500 million beyond statutory requirements to the state's beleaguered pension funds; \$1 billion to the state's "rainy day" fund, which currently has a balance of just \$27 million; and an estimated \$1.8 billion in tax relief, much of which is temporary.

At a signing event at Chicago State University, Gov. JB Pritzker touted the spending plan as proof of his fiscal leadership as he seeks a second term, contrasting the three-plus years under his leadership with that of his Republican predecessor, Bruce Rauner.

"Do you remember just five years ago when our state was held hostage by the former governor and the majority of the Republican Party?" Pritzker asked rhetorically. "Violence interruption pro-

grams were destroyed. DCFS shutdown 500 residential beds for our state's most vulnerable children. The developmentally disabled were forgotten. Our state's unpaid backlog of bills piled up to nearly \$17 billion and our state suffered eight credit downgrades while sending five of our universities into junk credit status."

Rauner presided over a 736-day budget impasse in which he and Democrats in the General Assembly failed to bridge ideological gaps to pass a state budget. During that period, court-mandated spending continued at a pace that was billions of dollars more than available revenues, due in large part to the rollback of a temporary tax hike that occurred just before Rauner took office.

"As we look at this year's budget, and we try to ask which direction is it heading in, it's growing spending faster than we're growing revenues. It ignores the fact that voters rejected a tax increase. And when this one-time revenue dries up, the only thing you'll know how to do is go back and raise taxes yet again."

—Sen. Tom Demmer, Dixon

Pritzker beat Rauner by 16 percentage points in the 2018 election, and he and Democrats have highlighted the impasse and played up the differences between the two administrations throughout Pritzker's first term in an effort to claim the mantle of the party of fiscal responsibility in Illinois.

It's a contrast that Pritzker's campaign has highlighted in television adver-

tising, noting the state has seen credit upgrades from two ratings agencies since he took office and paid down the bill backlog to a regular 30-day billing cycle.

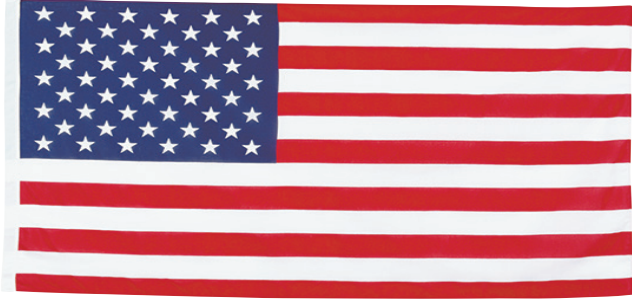
That's on top of a March debt retirement plan that saw the state dedicate \$898 million to pay down old health insurance bills that were collecting interest and \$230 million to fully fund the state's College Illinois program.

The budget also includes \$1.8 billion in tax relief, including a one-year suspension on the state's grocery tax (\$400 million), a one-time 5 percent property tax rebate up to \$300 per household (\$520 million), and a 10-day sales tax holiday for back-to-school items and clothing from Aug. 5-14 (\$50 million).

See Budget, Page A5



SEE SHOPPE LOCAL DIRECTORY
AT WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM



Index

Local News ...	Pages A2,A3,A5,A7,A8,B5
Obituaries	Page A4
Opinion	Page A6
Cinco de Mayo	Page A9
The Back Page	Page A10
Sports	Pages B1,B2
NIE Fun Page	Page B3
Entertainment	Page B4
Church Page	Page B7
Classifieds/Legals	Page B8



Cinco de Mayo event set in Mendota

MENDOTA — The Hispanic Partnership Council will present Cinco de Mayo, a free community celebration, on Thursday, May 5 from 5-8 p.m. at 1201 Main St., Mendota.

Highlights of the event will be food trucks, music, activities, vendors, 50/50 drawing, and a mini king and queen competition.

For more information, call 815-830-2547.



24/7 - We're always on at www.mendotareporter.com



LOCAL AND AREA

Musical duet Alatheia to appear at Seatonville Church April 30

SEATONVILLE – The critically acclaimed duet Alatheia will be bringing their unique blend of folk, gospel and mountain melodies to the Seatonville Community Church at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 30.

Winners of numerous acoustic music and songwriting awards, Alatheia takes stories from their own lives and weaves them into music that's instantly relatable. Rooted in the Appalachian Mountains, Alatheia (Mandee Radford Langley and Cristi Johnson) creates and performs original and traditional music in what they call Front-Porch-style, using eclectic instruments, thick modern harmonies and engaging storytelling of life on the road, taking cues from nature, their families, and neighbors along the way. This approach has taken Alatheia around the US and across the world into Europe



and Asia playing concerts, festivals and special events.

Alatheia's recent full-length recording of traditional hymns "His Eye Is On the Sparrow" was selected by Coverfolk as one on the Best Traditional Folk Albums of 2017.

Everyone is invited to the concert. A free will offering to help defray expenses will be taken at the concert. Seatonville Community Church is located at 110 W. U.S. Route 6 in Seatonville, the little white church by the road.

Sacred Heart Convent Chapel opens to public for tour, presentation May 9

SPRINGFIELD – For the first time in two years, Sacred Heart Convent Chapel will open to the public for self-guided tours, an exhibit, and a presentation by eminent architectural historian Anthony Rubano.

The Dominican Sisters of Springfield will host Reading Light: Sacred Art & Architecture in collaboration with Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield, from 6-8 p.m., Monday May 9.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for self-guided tours of the chapel. Local architectural historian Anthony Rubano will discuss the architectural history of the mid-century modern chapel at 7 p.m. in Aquinas Center beneath the chapel. Also in Aquinas Center will be an exhibit demonstrating the use of light and glass in various religious traditions.

"It will be a pleasure to welcome guests to the chapel again," said Sister Beth Murphy, OP, the Dominican Sisters' communication

director. "Anyone who has enjoyed one of Anthony Rubano's downtown tours knows they will be entertained and informed by his presentation."

Dedicated in 1968, the chapel is among the largest U.S. works of Gabriel Loire, a prolific French glass artist who began his career replacing windows in European churches after World War II. The chapel contains 4,000 sq. ft. of dalle de verre, or faceted, glass windows designed by Loire at his studio near Chartres. It also features two large Venetian glass mosaics and other sacred furnishings designed by the Chicago-based Daprato Rigali Studios.

Guests can download free tour materials when they register in advance at <https://springfieldop.org/LAFS>

Find the complete listing of Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield's events during the week of May 6-15, 2022 at <http://www.lafspringfield.org/>

Mendota First UMC plans dinner

MENDOTA – Mendota First United Methodist Church will be having a BBQ Pork Chop & Chicken Dinner from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 5. It will be drive-through only. The church is located at 100 E. Sixth St.

There will be three meal options. Meal #1 is two pork chops. Meal #2 is half chicken. Meal #3 is a combo (1/4 chicken and one pork chop). The cost is \$15 per meal. 5-Bs Catering is supplying the food.

Tickets may be pre-purchased at the church office or purchased the night of the dinner.

IVCC offers free concert on May 5

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Wind Ensemble will offer a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5 in the Dr. Mary Margaret Weeg Cultural Centre.

The performance will likely include the music of Morton Gould, Franz Biebl, John Philip Sousa, Percy Aldridge Grainger, Carolyn Bremer, David Maslanka, Alfred Reed and James Curnow.

Selections will include American Salute, Children's March "Over the Hills and Far Away," Early Light, Punchinello, and Give Us This Day, amongst other selections.

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.

Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

I hope everyone had a great spring break and enjoyed some time away from school. It was great to have students and staff back in the building this week. We now only have about six weeks left of school before the end of the school year!

Information came home regarding online registration for the 2022-2023 school year. All registration will be completed online again this year. This registration process online is very simple to complete and does not take much time. If parents do not have access to a computer to complete registration, please contact our office at 539-6888 to set up a time to come to the school to use a computer. If parents have any questions regarding the registration process at all, please let us know!

Inter-State Studios was at Blackstone on April 19 for spring pictures. Students who ordered pictures were photographed in a more non-traditional pose for spring pictures. Picture packages should arrive within the next 4-5 weeks.

The students nominated for the principal award this past week included Greyson Gleim, Liam Reeder, Cayden Bloomfield, Sofia Rivera, Shayne Full, Christian Ruiz, Abel Olivas and Jaxson Ohlendorf. The winners were Liam Olsen, Kale Smith, Ajla Bugiye and Manuel Aburto. Congratulations to all of these students!

Congratulations to the students in Mrs. Nurnberg's first grade classroom. They have already reached their 3rd trimester goal of Paw Pride certificates with six weeks left of school! They have earned these certificates by demonstrating great behavior throughout the building. They will be rewarded with a dance party later this spring. Congratulations!

Our next spirit day will be on Thursday, April 28. It will be Blackstone spirit wear or blue/gold day. Don't forget there is an early dismissal on Friday, April 29. Kindergarten will dismiss at 1:20 and first grade at 1:30.

Graves-Hume Library hosting unique presentation on May 5

MENDOTA – You won't want to miss this interesting and unique presentation at Graves-Hume Public Library – Bizarre History of Illinois-Strange Stories From Our Past – on Thursday, May 5 at 7 p.m.

Author, lecturer and researcher, Chad Lewis, will take you on a time portal back to the early days of the state when it was filled with strange deaths, ghosts, peculiar people, and so much

more. Lewis has traveled the world in search of unique and bizarre stories and history.



Registration is encouraged. Seating is limited. Registration is open to all; no library card required. To register, call Graves-Hume Public Library at 815-538-5142.

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Two childhood vaccines for parents to consider are for hepatitis A and human papillomavirus (HPV).

Hepatitis A vaccine

- Two doses around 12 and 18 months of age will help prevent liver disease.

HPV vaccine

- Two doses around age 11 or 12 – for both girls and boys – will help prevent more than 90% of HPV-related cancers later in life.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Free electronics recycling event set April 30th

OTTAWA – A free electronics recycling event will be held Saturday, April 30 from 8 a.m.-noon at the LaSalle County Government Center, 707 E. Etna Road, Ottawa. The event is limited to LaSalle County residents only.

Pre-registration is required either online at <https://lasallecounty.as.me/> (preferred registration method) or by calling 815-630-4308 Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m.-noon. Registration is not open to businesses. Oversized loads may be refused. There is a limit of two televisions per vehicle.

Accepted items are as follows: cable and satellite receivers, cameras, cash registers, credit card readers, cell phones and accessories, chargers, circuit boards, computer servers, computers and computer parts, copiers/printers/scanners/fax machines/typewriters, DVD and VHS players, external drives, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, ink and toner cartridges, laptops/tablets/e-readers, mice and keyboards, microwaves, all type monitors, MP3/iPods, networking equipment (modems, switches, routers, hubs), phones and telecom equipment, projectors, rechargeable batteries (lithium, ion, Ni-Cd, lead acid, Ni-Mh), stereos/radios/speakers, all type televisions, uninterrupted power supplies, video game consoles, wires, cables and Christmas lights.

Non-accepted items are as follows: loose alkaline batteries (accepted while contained in electronic devices), liquid containing items, Freon containing items (AC units, dehumidifiers), white goods (refrigerators/freezers), thermostats and light bulbs.

For more information not regarding registration, contact the LaSalle County Land Use Department at 815-434-8666.



The Prairie Arts Council in Princeton will present three performances of Delval Divas.

Prairie Arts Council presenting Delval Divas April 29-30, May 1

PRINCETON – The Prairie Arts Council invites you to a performance of Delval Divas, written by Barbara Pease Weber.

Delval Divas will be performed April 29 and 30 at 7:30 p.m., and May 1 at 2 p.m. at the Prairie Arts Center, 24 Park Ave. East, Princeton. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and may be purchased online at prairiearts.org, by emailing prairieartsprinceton@gmail.com, or by leaving a message at 815-875-2787. Tickets will also be available at the door. Doors open 30 minutes before show time.

Stella Wild, MBA; Linda Robertson, MD, PhD; Rosemary Adams, JD/MBA; and Beth Ziegler, MBA have some things in common. Besides being educated, successful and professional women, they also share the same address. It isn't a swanky high-rise apartment building or a beachfront condo...they reside at the Delaware Valley Federal Correctional Facility, a low-level

security prison for 'white and 'pink collar criminals.

Add in a new inmate charged with murder, a missing warden and the threat of being transferred to the less-than-glamorous Black Rock Federal Prison. How do the Divas save Delval, solve a murder and reunite on a Roman holiday? Who ever said that crime doesn't pay?

Director Ellen Marincic has cast Karin Hansen of Princeton as Stella, Jill Marti of Princeton as Linda, Kathy Hepner of Streator as Rosemary, Bobette Roberson of Ottawa as Sharon, Kelli Montgomery of Ottawa as Lucille, and Jennifer Walk of Hennepin as Beth.

Delval Divas is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., a Concord Theatricals Company. Prairie Arts programming is funded in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council Agency and The Princeton Closet.

LaSalle Library plans bird-watching hike

LaSALLE – The LaSalle Public Library is hosting a guided bird watching hike at Starved Rock State Park, with hike leaders Tom Williams and Don Goerne, on Saturday, May 14, from 7:30-10 a.m. The hike is for adults only.

The hike will begin by the bird feeding area, near the sidewalk next to the Starved Rock Visitor Center and will be approximately two miles round-trip to Wildcat Canyon. Williams and Goerne, as hike leaders, will discuss bird calls and the art of bird watching during the hike. Registered participants are reminded to dress for hiking. There will

be a limited supply of binoculars available; participants will be encouraged to bring their own for the hike, along with a bottle of water. The Starved Rock Visitor Center, along with restrooms, will be closed at the start of the hike but will open later in the morning.

Williams has been a member of the Starved Rock Audubon since its inception in 1969. He is an avid birder and conducts the area's bird counts every Christmas and Spring. He is also a volunteer and member of the Starved Rock Foundation at Starved Rock State Park. Goerne has been fascinated by birds and nature in general for over

50 years.

The program is free and open to the adult public. Registration is required and is limited to 30 participants. Participants are encouraged to arrive at the Park by 7:15 a.m. to begin promptly by 7:30 a.m. To confirm that the hike is a "go," for May 14, the Library will confirm via email with all registered participants by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 13.

To register, follow the link – <https://bit.ly/3EATyIQ>.

May 1-7 proclaimed as Youth Week in Mendota

MENDOTA – Mendota Mayor David Boelk signed a proclamation that the first week in May is Youth Week as designated by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

The proclamation reads:

Whereas, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has designated May 1-7 as Youth Week to honor America's Junior Citizens for their accomplishments, and to give fitting recognition of their services to Community, State and Nation; and,

Whereas, Mendota Elks Lodge #1212 will sponsor an observance during that week in tribute to the Junior Citizens of this community; and,

Whereas, no event could be more deserving of our support and participation than one dedicated to these young people who represent the nation's greatest resource, and who in the years ahead will assume the responsibility for the advancement of our free society; and,

Whereas, our Youth need the guidance, inspiration and encouragement which we alone can give in order to help develop those qualities of character essential for future leadership, and go forth to serve America; and,

Whereas, to achieve this worthy objective we should demonstrate our partnership with Youth, our understanding of their hopes and aspirations and a sincere willingness to help prepare them in every way for the responsibilities and opportunities of citizenship:

Now therefore, I David Boelk, Mayor of Mendota, do hereby proclaim the first week in May as Youth Week, and urge all departments of government, civic, fraternal and patriotic groups, and our citizens generally, to participate wholeheartedly in its observance.

IVCC students benefit in big way with relief funds

OGLESBY – It paid in more ways than one to persevere in Illinois Valley Community College classes this spring.

IVCC disbursed over \$1 million recently to more than 1,700 students who persisted in spring classes. Financial Aid director Eric Johnson said his office transmitted \$1,039,644 from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to 1,775 students.

To receive a "Spring Retention" payment, students had to remain enrolled until

April 7. Those in 12 or more credit hours received \$1,000; those in 6 to 11 hours \$500. High school students in IVCC's dual enrollment program will also receive checks.

"We rewarded students who persisted in their IVCC education," said IVCC President Jerry Corcoran. "These payments can help students with their summer and fall tuition."

Summer and fall registration is underway. Summer sessions begin May 16, May 31 and June 8. To register, call Records at (815) 224-0447.

Mendota Weather

April 27, 2022

Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday
Partly Cloudy
High: 54 Low: 37

Thursday
Few Showers
High: 57 Low: 46

Friday
Few Showers
High: 62 Low: 50

Saturday
Few Showers
High: 66 Low: 48

Sunday
Few Showers
High: 61 Low: 44

Monday
Few Showers
High: 65 Low: 46

Tuesday
Cloudy
High: 61 Low: 44

In-Depth Forecast

Wednesday we will see partly cloudy skies, high of 54°, humidity of 48%. Northeast wind 6 to 13 mph. The record high for Wednesday is 90° set in 1986. Expect mostly cloudy skies Wednesday night with a slight chance of showers, overnight low of 37°. East wind 10 to 13 mph. The wind chill for Wednesday night could reach 31°. The record low for Wednesday night is 27° set in 2006.

Regional Cities

City	Hi/Lo	Wx
Aurora	50/35	mc
Champaign	60/40	s
Chicago	43/37	pc
Freeport	51/35	mc
Joliet	51/36	pc
Moline	59/41	mc
Peoria	61/42	pc
Rockford	50/35	mc
Springfield	65/45	s

Last Week's Local Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Monday	42	33	60/37	0.00"
Tuesday	50	31	60/38	0.00"
Wednesday	52	46	61/38	0.35"
Thursday	68	48	61/38	0.00"
Friday	69	55	62/39	0.01"
Saturday	81	61	62/39	0.00"
Sunday	70	52	62/39	0.00"

Rainfall 0.36"
Normal rainfall 0.76"
Departure -0.40"
Average temp 54.1°
Average normal 49.7°
Departure +4.4°
Data as reported from Peru, Ill.

Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	5:58 a.m.	7:50 p.m.	4:49 a.m.	4:41 p.m.
Thursday	5:57 a.m.	7:51 p.m.	5:11 a.m.	5:46 p.m.
Friday	5:56 a.m.	7:52 p.m.	5:32 a.m.	6:51 p.m.
Saturday	5:54 a.m.	7:53 p.m.	5:55 a.m.	7:56 p.m.
Sunday	5:53 a.m.	7:54 p.m.	6:20 a.m.	9:01 p.m.
Monday	5:52 a.m.	7:55 p.m.	6:48 a.m.	10:05 p.m.
Tuesday	5:50 a.m.	7:56 p.m.	7:22 a.m.	11:06 p.m.

Local UV Index

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

National Weather Summary This Week

The Northeast will see partly cloudy skies with isolated rain, highest temperature of 62 in Granite City, Ill. The Southeast will experience mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 88 in Tampa, Fla. The central United States will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 90 in El Paso, Texas. In the Northwest there will be partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 74 in Torrington, Wyo. The Southwest will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 99 in Maricopa, Ariz.

Weather Trivia

What is the first day of spring known as?

Answer: Vernal Equinox

Weather History

April 27, 1988 - Mount Washington, N.H. reported seven feet of snow in 10 days, pushing their snowfall total for the month past the previous record of 89.3 inches, which was set in 1975.

April 28, 1921 - A severe hailstorm in Anson County, N.C. produced hail the size of baseballs. Gardens, grain fields and trees were destroyed. Some pine trees in the storm's path had to be cut for lumber because of the hail damage.

In Loving MEMORY

On Memorial Day, we remember those who have passed away and are especially dear to us. Our time to remember will be published Wednesday, May 25th, devoted to those who are gone, but not forgotten.

JANE DOE

MAY 1, 1950 - APRIL 23, 2012

You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.

- Write your own or select one of the following verses below to accompany your tribute.
- We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.**
 - May God cradle you in His arms, now and forever.**
 - Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand**
 - Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.**
 - The days may come and go, but the times we shared will always remain.**
 - May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.**
 - May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.**
 - You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.**
 - May God's grace shine over you for all time.**
 - May the Lord bless you with His grace and warm, loving heart.**

To remember your loved one in this special way send \$10 per listing. Your special tribute will become a lasting memorial record in the May 25th issue of The Mendota Reporter. Deadline is Friday, May 20th at Noon.

Please publish my tribute in the special Memorial Day page on May 25.

Name of Deceased:

☐ Please use Verse # ☐ I have included my own Verse (write below)

Date of Birth: Date of Passing:

Signed by: Your Verse:

The following will not be published.

Your Name: Address: Daytime Phone:

Mail to: The Mendota Reporter, 703 Illinois Ave., P.O. Box 300, Mendota, IL 61342

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Martin S. Feith

PEORIA—Martin Stephen Feith, 68, of Peoria, passed away Wednesday, April 20, 2022.

Cremation has been accorded. A memorial service will be held at Davison-Fulton Woodland Chapel on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 2 p.m. with Father Tom Taylor officiating.

Born July 22, 1953 in Mendota, to the late Alick and Betty Alice (Moon) Feith, he married Sharon Guppy on Feb. 12, 2000. She preceded him in death on Sept. 12, 2018.

He is survived by his sister, Patricia (Feith) Jorgenson, of Wonder Lake; nieces, Valerie Jorgenson and Heather Jorgenson, both of Chicago; and step-sons, Martin Guppy, and Randall Guppy.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by his brother, Carl Feith.

Martin was an avid photographer. He enjoyed playing chess and traveled to tournaments throughout the United States.

He graduated from Mendota High School in 1971.

Memorials may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation or to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. Davison-Fulton Woodland Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.Davison-Fulton.com for the Feith family.

Allan W. Zimmerman

COMPTON—Allan W. Zimmerman, 80, of Compton, passed away April 15, 2022 at Serenity Hospice and Home, Oregon.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 28, 2022 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Compton with Pastor Jeff Schlesinger officiating. Burial will be at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation will be from 9-11 a.m. April 28, at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is handling arrangements.

Allan was born June 18, 1941 in Mendota, to Gilbert and Alma (Kaufman) Zimmerman. He married Elaine (Truckenbrod) Eich on March 16, 2002. They have all preceded him in death.

He is survived by his sister, Charlene Zimmerman, of Compton; step-children Brian (Cheryl) Eich, Rebecca Eich and Sandra Eich; and by many cousins.

Allan graduated from Mendota Township High School in June 1959. He was a farmer his entire life, starting before graduation. He loved being outside and farming. He had an extensive farm shop and could make almost anything he needed on the farm or do anything needed to modify a piece of equipment to his liking. Allan and his buddy Gale attended many farm sales always looking for a bargain.

Allan loved NASCAR racing (especially Dale Earnhardt) and watched as many races as he could. He also was a Chicago Bulls, Blackhawks and Bears fan and liked almost any sport. Allan was a life-long member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Compton. He served his church as an usher, a past council member and was on the cemetery board. He worked on many projects around the church and cemetery. He was a Trustee of the Compton Fire Department and a member of the Lee County Farm Bureau.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Serenity Hospice and Home, Compton Fire Department or Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



John Kidd

MENDOTA — John "Roger" Kidd, 77, of Mendota, passed away April 20, 2022 at OSF St. Anthony's Medical Center, Rockford.

Graveside services will be held Saturday, May 7, 2022 at noon at Restland Cemetery, Mendota with the Rev. Sandy Smith officiating. Visitation will be held May 7 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota. To honor Roger's love of farming, please feel free to come adorned with a farm hat of your choosing, as he was seldom seen without his standard orange Golden Harvest hat.

Roger was born July 13, 1944 in Mendota to Warren and Ora (Druen) Kidd. He graduated from Mendota High School in 1962. He married Barbara Hecathorn of Earlville on July 14, 1967 at the Earlville Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife Barbara; daughter Julie; granddaughter Erica; brother Terry (Karen) Kidd; and two sisters, Linda Buettner and Janet Piller.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter Beth; and two brothers-in-law, Wayne Buettner and Ken Piller.

One of Roger's passions in life was farming. As a fourth-generation farmer, he started out grain and cattle farming with his father Warren. Once Warren retired, Roger's wife Barbara took on all the duties usually bequeathed to a hired man. He lived and farmed in Ophir Township all within a country block of the original centennial Kidd Homestead and the farm he was raised on. Roger put great pride and effort in selling Golden Harvest Seed for 40-plus years. He was always an advocate for his customers, which yielded him the top honor of District Dealer of the Year for Golden Harvest four separate times as well as numerous service excellence awards. In his early years, he did custom combining and during winter you could always see him providing snow removal services for his neighbors. He also provided excellent combine tutelage when instructing his daughter on the ins and outs of farming. Roger was a lifetime member of the LaSalle County Farm Bureau.

Roger was the proud father of Julie Lynn and Beth Ann (deceased in infancy). He never missed cheering his daughter on in volleyball or attending a school function she was involved in. In addition, he was the proud grandparent of Erica Grace Workman. He delighted in eventually taking on babysitting duties during farming seasons. He would be known to utilize his mechanical incline and ability to think outside the box to create quite the imaginative playtime, like creating a teepee for his granddaughter in the middle of the living room. Roger also had a soft spot for all the grand fur babies along the way. A smile and chuckle was often seen when they visited.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Mendota Area Senior Services, Mendota High School Agriculture Department or a charity of the donors choosing.

Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



IDNR recommends halt to use of bird feeders, bird baths through May 31

Attempt to cease spread of Avian Flu

SPRINGFIELD—The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) issued updated public recommendations regarding wild birds and the EA H5N1 strain of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) currently impacting some wild and domestic bird species.

While HPAI has not been detected in songbird species (passerines), IDNR recommends the use of bird feeders and bird baths cease through May 31, or until HPAI infections in the Midwest subside, especially those that waterfowl may visit. During spring, wild birds will have ample food sources while bird feeders are removed.

Further IDNR recommendations:

- Clean and rinse bird feeders and baths with a diluted bleach solution (nine parts water to one part bleach) and put away or clean weekly if they can't be moved away from birds.
- Remove any bird seed at the base of bird feeders to discourage large gatherings of birds or other wildlife.
- Avoid feeding wild birds in close proximity to domestic flocks.

If five or more deceased wild birds are observed in one location, an IDNR district wildlife biologist should be contacted. Contact information for district wildlife biologists can be found at <https://www.wildlifeillinois.org/sidebar/contact-an-idnr-district-wildlife-biologist/>. USDA Wildlife Services also may be contacted at 1-866-487-3297.

In addition, IDNR requests all occurrences of deceased or sick bald eagles be reported to the agency.

When disposing of any deceased wild birds, rubber gloves and a mask should be worn, and the carcass should be double-bagged in sealed plastic bags. The bags

can be buried away from scavengers or placed in the garbage if approved by the local waste service provider. Anyone handling deceased birds should thoroughly wash their hands and any other clothes or tools with soap and water following disposal.

With spring turkey season underway, IDNR notes that wild turkeys are less likely to contract HPAI given their behavior and the habitats they occupy. However, turkey hunters can protect themselves by thoroughly cooking game meat to an internal temperature of 165 degrees Fahrenheit and implementing other guidance found here at this link: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/2015/fsc_hpai_hunters.pdf.

IDNR first announced HPAI was detected in wild Canada geese in Illinois on March 10, 2022, in a joint notice with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Since then, wild bird mortality from HPAI has been confirmed in Champaign, Fulton, Sangamon, and Will counties with a more recent mortality event of more than 200 birds in Cook County suspected to be caused from HPAI.

Wild birds impacted include waterfowl and waterbird species, as well as some raptors, including bald eagles. Detections in domestic poultry flocks have also occurred.

For more information on the status of HPAI in wild birds and domestic bird flocks in Illinois and other states, visit <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/2022-hpai> and <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Animals/AnimalHealth/Pages/Highly-Pathogenic-Avian-Influenza.aspx>.

DEATH NOTICES

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

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LAST WEEK'S ANSWER:

Flag dedication bench at Restland Cemetery
Winner - Julie Schmidt

Chris Says...

Chris Klein

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LOCAL AND AREA

Dist. 280

Continued from Page A1

• New Spanish textbooks and online curriculum was put on display for 30 days of public review.

• The Athletic Committee met in early April, and per its recommendations, the following coaches were hired: Nick Ganz, varsity boys' basketball assistant; Evan Carroll, sophomore boys' basketball; Drake O'Donnell, freshman boys' basketball; Joe Hughes, head girls' track; Ali Eddy, cheerleading. Also, the Fall athletic budget was approved.

• The Fine Arts Walt Disney World and Universal Studios trip itinerary and contract from Entourage Management, LLC and MHS was reviewed and approved. Aughenbaugh noted that the Fine Arts Department has restructured to take one big trip every four years. This format is different from both the band and choir traveling separately every year. She said students have the opportunity to fund-raise to offset the expense, and local clubs and the Music Boosters also help to support students on these trips.

• Per Aughenbaugh's recommendation, the board approved the Mendota Rotary Interact Club as an MHS school-sanctioned club. Currently, the group has 32 students. The volunteer sponsor is Alisa Stewart.

The group's projects this year include gardening for granny, soccer clothing drive, cards for Heritage residents, food drive for Mendota Food Pantry, tree-planting, Christmas cards for staff, Valentine's for staff and ditch clean-up on Route 34.

• Upcoming events include: Awards and Scholarship Assembly-May 3; Staff and Teacher Appreciation Week-May 2-6; Prom-May 7. Prom grand march and coronation will be at 5:30 p.m. in the gym, with dinner and dance to follow at the Mendota Civic Center.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

During Superintendent Jeff Prusator's report, consideration and approval was granted for the renewal of the intergovernmental agreement with the city of Mendota and the school resource officer (Chad Hochstatter) for the 2022-23 school year.

The board authorized Prusator to hire two student summer custodians and to let bus bids.

Enrollment projects were given for the next nine years. The MHS enrollment is currently 507. Enrollment would dip below 500 over the next two years, go slightly above 500 for three years and then go back under 500 for four years. Since the 1989-90 school year, MHS's enrollment high was 689 in 1994-95.

PERSONNEL

The board handled the following personnel items:

• Accepted the resignation of Heath Raley as CTE teacher, COE advisor, CTE department chair, driver's education department chair, head girls' track coach.

• Renewed the contract of Dave Boylan, school psychologist.

• Renewed the contract of Kate Hagenbuch, school speech-language pathologist.

• Hired James Younger as choir teacher, choir director and assistant band teacher for 2022-23 school year.

• Accepted the retirement notice of Nancy Roulston from the kitchen-cafeteria.

• Hired Kyle Lopez as CTE teacher and COE advisor.

• Approved maternity leave for Paula Baker in the fall 2022.

• Approved and hired Matt Meyer as CTE department chair.

• Approved and hired Brock Zinke as driver's education department chair.

The next regular meeting of the District 280 Board will be Monday, May 16 at 6 p.m.

Taxpayers can check the status of their federal tax refund by going to IRS website

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Once a taxpayer files their tax return, they want to know when they'll receive their refund. The most convenient way to check on a tax refund is by using the Where's My Refund? Tool on IRS.gov. Taxpayers can start checking their refund status within 24 hours after the IRS acknowledges receipt of the taxpayer's e-filed return. The tool also provides a personalized refund date after the return is processed and a refund is approved.

Taxpayers can access the Where's My Refund? tool two ways:

- Visiting IRS.gov

- Downloading the IRS2Go app
- To use the tool, taxpayers will need:
- Their Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification number

- Tax filing status
- The exact amount of the refund claimed on their tax return

The tool shows progress in three phases:

- Return received
- Refund approved
- Refund sent

When the status changes to approved, this means the IRS is preparing to send the refund as a direct

deposit to the taxpayer's bank account or directly to the taxpayer in the mail, by check, to the address used on their tax return.

The IRS updates the Where's My Refund? tool once a day, usually overnight, so taxpayers don't need to check the status more often.

Taxpayers should allow time for their bank or credit union to post the refund to their account or for it to be delivered by mail. Calling the IRS won't speed up a tax refund. The information available on Where's My Refund? is the same information available to IRS telephone assistants.

Budget

Continued from Page A1

Another \$685 million would fund one-time direct rebate checks at \$50 per individual and \$100 per dependent, up to three, for individuals earning \$200,000 or less or joint filers earning \$400,000 or less.

While that relief was temporary, the budget also permanently increased the earned income tax credit from 18 to 20 percent of the federal credit while expanding the program to noncitizens who have an individual taxpayer identification number rather than a Social Security number. That program would cost about \$100 million.

The state's statutory annual motor fuel tax increase will be delayed for six months this year, costing about \$70 million.

Republicans in the General Assembly opposed the spending portions of the budget but largely supported the tax relief proposals, even though they criticized them as being temporary.

"This budget is nothing more than a campaign tool for Pritzker and the Democratic Party," Senate Minority Leader Dan McConchie, R-Hawthorn Woods, who voted for the tax relief plan, said in a statement. "Providing one-time checks to people in the mail right before their names appear on the ballot and expire right after the election is a disgrace."

While Democrats have generally praised themselves for fiscal stability, Pritzker's

Department of Revenue in a February committee presentation noted that much of the unforeseen state revenue growth was a result of pandemic-related shifts in consumer spending and other federal aid, either directly or indirectly.

Revenues for the current fiscal year were about \$5 billion higher than originally budgeted last year, creating surpluses that allowed for the flexibility in the FY 2023 spending plan.

That was largely driven by increases to the state's personal and corporate income taxes, as well as sales taxes, as consumers purchased more taxable goods than untaxed services amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

On top of that, the federal government made direct payments to Illinoisans and provided for additional unemployment benefits, which are taxable at the state level, further boosting state coffers.

The revenue windfalls have created the opposite reality of one that Pritzker had predicted would come to fruition if voters rejected his graduated income tax proposal in November 2020.

After that initiative, which would have taxed higher income Illinoisans at a higher rate failed by a 53-47 margin, Pritzker said "painful" budget cuts were unavoidable.

Rep. Tom Demmer, R-Dixon, who is a candidate for state treasurer, contrasted the governor's dire warnings with the financial picture put forth by Democrats in an

election year that will see every statewide office and seat in the General Assembly up for grabs.

"You were bailed out by billions in additional funding from the federal government in Medicaid matching funds. You were bailed out by, across the country, trillions of dollars that were injected into our economies that led to higher-than-expected collections in revenue for the state temporarily," he said during floor debate.

"So as we look at this year's budget, and we try to ask which direction is it heading in, it's growing spending faster than we're growing revenues," he added. "It ignores the fact that voters rejected a tax increase. And when this one-time revenue dries up, the only thing you'll know how to do is go back and raise taxes yet again."

Democrats, on the other hand, have tried to paint Republicans as voting against fiscal stability.

"Balancing the budget allows us to save for the future and live up to our financial obligations," Pritzker said. "On all of these things, the only members of the General Assembly who voted to kick the can down the road and stick you and your children with the bill were the Republicans who voted against it."

As well, in an election year in which Republicans are relentlessly campaigning on a platform that pits Democrats as weak on crime, Sen. Elgie Sims, a Chicago Democrat, tried to flip the script.

"There are those who are standing on the sideline talking about crime is increasing, but they are the ones who would only want voting to defund police," Sims said at bill signing. "They don't vote for additional investments in creating public safety initiatives that will truly make our communities safer."

Democrats touted \$240 million in spending — \$235 million of which came from federal American Rescue Plan Act funding — for violence reduction programs; funding for 300 additional Illinois State Police troopers; \$30 million for the Violent Crime Witness Protection Program; \$30 million for police body camera grants; \$20 million in grants for less lethal devices and training; \$10 million for a local law enforcement retention grant program; and \$20 million for cameras and automatic license plate readers on state routes, among other public safety spending.

Republicans have focused their rhetoric on a January 2021 criminal justice reform known as the SAFE-T Act, which, among other things, overhauled police training and certification standards and authorized the end of cash bail in Illinois beginning in January 2023.

(Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government that is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.)

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OPINION



The Mendota Reporter

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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.

Illinois is taxing taxes

By Scott Reeder

Illinois politicians must think we are really a dumb bunch, they just passed legislation that requires every gas pump in the Land of Lincoln to bear a sticker telling us that the state could be screwing us over even worse at the gas pump.

Of course, they don't phrase it that honestly. They are quite literally giving us their 2-cents' worth. Illinois will still have the second-highest gasoline taxes in the nation – but, hey, our politicians are putting off a 2-cent-a-gallon tax hike scheduled for July 1 until Jan. 1, 2023.

Let's say in July, I were to pull into a service station to fill my pickup with fuel and I spend \$100. (I spent that much two weeks ago – the most I've paid in my life at a gas pump.) The legislature wants me to know life could be much worse. If they hadn't put off the tax increase, I could have paid \$100.40.

Feeling a little underwhelmed? Well, you ought to be. In 2019, Gov. J.B. Pritzker and legislative Democrats doubled the state's gas tax, increasing it from 19 cents a gallon to 38 cents, and added an annual increase tied to inflation. It's that annual increase for this year that may be suspended for six months, not the doubling of the state gas tax in 2019 or the inflationary increases that already have kicked in since then.

Illinois not only taxes gasoline by the gallon but it imposes a separate sales tax that taxes it by the dollar. The taxes paid per gallon are used in the basis to determine sales tax on the overall sale.

We are taxing taxes.

Josh Sharp, chief executive officer of the Illinois Fuel and Retail Association, said Illinois may be the only state that assesses its sales tax on top of the gas tax. Folks in some parts of Illinois are paying about 50 cents a gallon in state taxes alone.

Add on the federal taxes and consumers are paying about 77 cents a gallon in taxes, he said.

That's shameful, particularly at a time when gasoline prices are at near record levels. Families across the state have suffered through two years of a pandemic and now are struggling against the highest inflation the nation has experienced in nearly 40 years.

If Gov. J.B. Pritzker signs the legislation, every gas pump in the state must have a 4-by-8-inch sticker reading: "As of July 1, 2022, the State of Illinois has suspended the inflation adjustment to the motor fuel tax through December 31, 2022. The price on this pump should reflect the suspension of the tax increase."

If a gas station owner does not comply, they would face a fine of \$500 for each day they are out of compliance.

"We don't think the government can compel a business or a private citizen or anyone for that matter to utter speech that they don't want to participate in, and, to us, this is a very political speech. It's right before an election. It's difficult to make the case that there is a public safety aspect to this. It's a political message. It's talking about a tax hike," Sharp said.

"This is just an effort to make retailers engage in free political advertising."

If the legislation is signed into law, Sharp said his organization plans to file a lawsuit to block its implementation on the grounds that it violates the free speech rights of his members.

So, where did this notion originate?

Well, it came from that incubator of really bad ideas known as the final two days of legislative session. Rarely do lawmakers become smarter or braver when they can see the end of their work in sight.

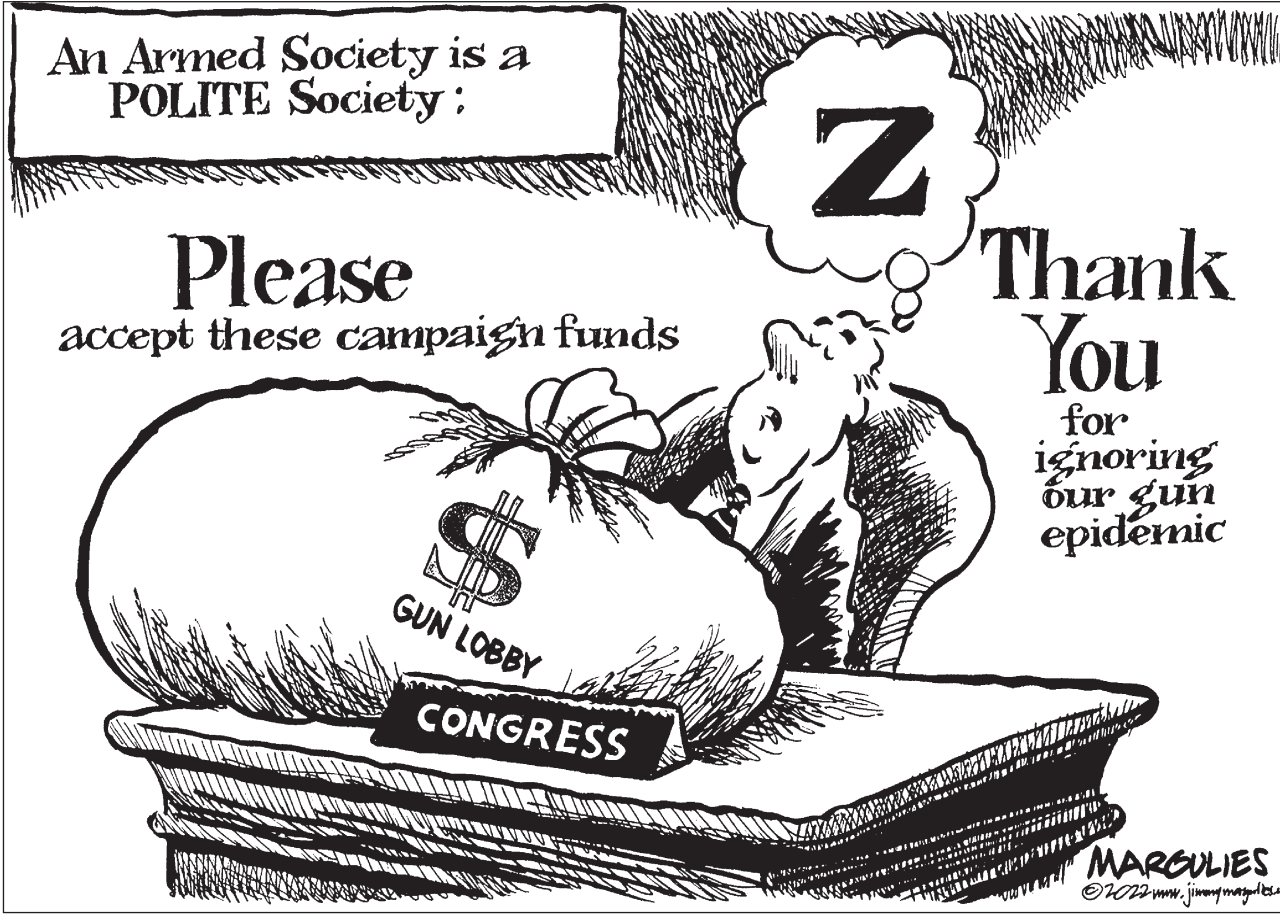
The delay of the 2-cent-per-gallon tax hike moved its implementation from before the November election to less than two months after. No one, least of all Pritzker, wants to be blamed for \$4.50 gasoline.

And in fairness, there is little a governor of any state can do about fluctuating oil prices on the international commodity exchanges. The only thing they can really influence that affects the price of gasoline is how it's taxed.

How much fuel should be taxed is a valid public policy debate. But instead of making a tough call on reducing state revenue and bringing gas taxes down to be in line with other states, our lawmakers chose a flimsy fig leaf of a sticker to cover their culpability in making Illinois one of the most expensive places in the nation to fill up.

We deserve better.

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



Last superintendent of schools – 1969

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from April 27, 1994.)

By Jessica Nashold

Twenty-five years ago this month, Dr. John Dal Santo submitted his resignation from the position of superintendent of schools. He was in charge of both Mendota High School and Mendota's elementary schools. The resignation would become effective June 30, 1969.

Dr. Dal Santo had come to Mendota in 1968 following a post-doctoral administrative internship. There had been 47 applicants for the Mendota superintendency.

When asked what he considered the most important accomplishment during his year in Mendota, he said it had been the hiring of an educational consulting firm to survey and report on the school programs and buildings.

Dr. Dal Santo was the last person to fill the position of superintendent of schools. For the 1969-70 school year, James Basala was named superintendent of grade schools and Morris Morgan became superintendent of Mendota High School.

Louis Koopersmith entered upon his third term as mayor of Mendota. The April 1969 vote was 1,329 for Koopersmith and 597 for H.B. Crow.

Mr. Crow did not throw his at into the ring until last Wednesday when he announced he was a write-in candidate.

A two-day shopping spree was advertised as Tax Relief Days, offered by Indignant Retail Shopkeepers (IRA). It included a display of 1969 cars on Jefferson Street between Main and Illinois by the Mendota New Car Dealers Association. The dealers were Faber Motor Co., Larkin Chevrolet Inc., Prescott Brothers, R & R Ford Sales, Schimmer Pontiac and Widmer & Sons Co.

The association announced it would award a \$150 scholarship for a gradu-

Backtracks & Sidetracks

ating MHS senior to attend automotive mechanics school. Morris Morgan and Joe Rollins would select the recipient.

L.J. Stephenitch & Sons announced they would discontinue their dealership for International Harvester on Aug. 15 and would close their farm service office June 1. After extensive remodeling, they would be opening an Ace Hardware affiliate.

Meetings were held throughout LaSalle County on a proposed county zoning ordinance. At the meeting in Mendota, only 25 persons attended.

A MHS band trip to Biloxi and Gulfport, Miss., and New Orleans, La., brought enthusiastic reports from the communities visited. From Gulfport –

There are not enough words to express our feelings on the conduct and cooperation the students gave Mr. Baile.

Lightning struck the No. 4 well, causing an estimated \$25,000 in damage. It was believed three to five weeks would be required for repairs. Meantime, the old CB&Q well, purchased by the city for \$500 several years before, and the No. 2 well on Fourth Avenue, would supply Mendota's water needs.

This is the first time the Burlington well has been used since it was purchased for emergency use.

Mendotans were asked to conserve water as much as possible until repairs could be completed.

The Mendota Ministerial Association sponsored a town meeting at the

Methodist church to discuss the possibility of adopting a film code.

Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie let it be known that a corridor paralleling U.S. 51 from Rockford to Interstate 57 north of Salem was in a preliminary planning stage.

D.G. Selbrede, agent and yardmaster for the CB&Q in Mendota told the Kiwanis Club membership that the Mendota station was 35th in size for passenger service. He said Mendota was a hub for unit transfers of potash. Since November 1968, 1,168 cars of potash had been handled in Mendota.

He assured Kiwanians that work on the Burlington crossing was scheduled for spring.

Mendota Illiniwek members picked up litter between the Farm Services plant and the intersection of Route 52 south of Mendota on April 20, 1969. This was a public service sponsored by the National Campers and Hikers Association. The Illiniweks collected 2,600 pounds of trash and estimated 95 percent was in the form of empty beer cans.

Following the pick-up, members met at Lake Mendota for a wiener roast and their children collected another six bushels of trash – paper napkins, cups and plastic food containers.

FFA members planted 100 white pine trees and two Bechtel crab trees at Apple Orchard Park in the south end of Mendota. Many of the trees, donated by the First State Bank, were planted along the railroad tracks. Ag instructor Fred Morris and student teacher Robert Thorsen directed the work.

The Mendota Sportsmen advertised a turkey shoot on April 27, 1969. The shoot was conducted in Johnson's timber, three miles east of Mendota on the Triumph blacktop. There was a special shoot for ladies. Instructed the ad –

Bring your own shotguns.

In defense of Elon Musk

By Rich Lowry

A year after being named Time magazine's person of the year, Elon Musk is attempting to acquire Twitter.

To listen to Musk's critics, you'd believe it's an act almost on par with Hitler invading Poland not long after being named Time's man of the year in 1938.

A writer for the left-wing website Salon worried that a Musk takeover of Twitter would enable fascism in America. A New York University journalism professor lamented that posting on Twitter with the threat of Musk looming feels like partying at a Berlin nightclub "at the twilight of Weimar Germany." Former Labor secretary Robert Reich warned, "This is what oligarchy looks like." And so on.

A report for the news site Axios compared Musk to "a movie super-villain," and related -- accurately -- that journalists who break news and opine on Twitter "really don't want to be working in Elon Musk's private playpen."

No, they much prefer to be working in a playpen whose ever-shifting rules -- constantly changing to keep up with the latest progressive priorities -- are written by the kind of people who thought the story of Hunter Biden's laptop should have been suppressed.

In their eyes, Elon Musk is guilty of a thought crime -- namely, believing that thought should be free, and should be freely expressed on a social media platform with outsize influence on the nation's public life.

Not too long ago, this would have been considered a core American belief, especially welcome to journalists whose work depends on the First Amendment. That was before content moderation, weaponized against one side of the political spectrum, supposedly became the thin line protecting American democracy from the onset of misinformation-driven dictatorship.

Who knew that so much could depend on policing what pronouns apply to trans people or cracking down on users who believed in the lab-leak theory early in the pandemic?

Musk presents a clear and present danger to the use of Twitter as a one-sided instrument to impose progressive rules on the public debate.

From one point of view, Twitter should be beneath him.

In contrast to many other Silicon Valley giants, Musk has focused on creating revolutionary physical products in the real world, whether electric cars or rockets. Transforming the American space program makes figuring out a better way for people to share their opinions 280 characters at time seem quite puny in comparison.

Musk is firmly in the tradition of great American entrepreneurs whose audacious vision, business acumen, and showmanship have made them larger-than-life celebrities. Think Thomas Edison.

They have usually been willing to think for themselves, a quality now in short supply.

In today's America, world famous entrepreneurs and the companies that they've created, which are supposed to be all about innovation and disruption, happily let themselves get pulled along in the slipstream of progressive group think.

Companies built on great risks are deathly afraid that they might have to weather a critical hashtag or a tantrum by their woke millennial employees.

People who would presumably object to the government telling them what to say and think are too willing to let free-floating social media mobs effectively dictate to them.

Musk, a kind of libertarian who has a puckish sense of humor and willingness to defy authority (just ask the SEC), rejects this thoughtless and often cowardly conformity.

Like podcaster Joe Rogan, another recent target of progressive ire, his fundamental offense is being uncategorizable and willing to question conventional wisdom. Like Dave Chapelle and J.K. Rowling, he is too rich and famous to be canceled or cowed -- to be more precise, he's the richest man in the world who enjoys a public fight and genuinely disdains the censors and scolds.

All of this makes him a very dangerous man indeed, and perhaps just the guy to make the statement against intimidation and in favor of free speech that this moment so desperately needs.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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- FIRST WARD ALDERMEN**
James Fitzpatrick, 807 Pennsylvania Ave., ...815-538-2474
John Hessenberger, 1406 Hillcrest Drive,815-539-9934
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John Holland, 902 West Lawn,815-528-5367
Leo Hochstatter, 1102 S. Park Ave.,630-841-1315
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Kyle Kim, 504 First Ave.,815-538-2414
Jay Miller, 702 First Ave.,757-412-9374
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Vicki Johnson, 206 Ninth St.,815-866-5558

LOCAL AND AREA

IVCC makes big computer purchase

OGLESBY – The Illinois Valley Community College board approved large scale IT purchases April 14 that will be financed by Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF).

As part of a four-year “technology refresh schedule,” IVCC will purchase 350 desktop computers with 24-inch monitors, 80 faculty laptops and 160 Hub Monitors for an estimated \$453,000.

Going forward, IVCC will replace 25 percent of its computers and AV equipment annually, said interim IT director Jim Carlson.

IT is also creating seven-year plans to upgrade network and WIFI systems.

“I realize this is an enormous commitment and I applaud the administration and board for making this bold decision,” Carlson said. “The future of technology at IVCC is exciting – but we have a significant amount of work to do.”

In other action, the board approved:

- Participation in the Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus, a fixed income investment program that aligns with state statutes.

- A \$446,785 bid of Advanced Asphalt of Princeton for parking lot upgrades expected to begin in May.

- Purchase of a \$65,052 FTIR (Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer) and HPLC (High-Pressure Liquid Chromatography) system from Shimadzu Scientific Instruments of West Chicago.

The FTIR is used by organic chemistry and forensic science students to determine the chemical structures of compounds. The HPLC will be used in cannabis certificate courses to identify extracts from hemp and cannabis to ensure products meet legal requirements.

The purchases are covered by HEERF.

- Purchase of the Strada Collaborative including Credit Predictor Pro for \$96,000 (also HEERF-funded). The partnership with Strada will enhance retention and completion rates for adults.

- Garrick Whitehead was hired as computer networking and information technology instructor. Whitehead has eight years teaching experience and 20 years of industry experience.

- IVCC Director of Human Resources Leslie Hofer will retire Aug. 31 after five years.

- Reimbursement of \$93.60 in travel expenses to trustee Jane Goetz for attending ICCTA meetings March 11 and 12.

- Closed session meeting minutes from March 10.

Trustees learned:

- Incoming student trustee Austin Dille of Ottawa was introduced and outgoing student trustee Madison Miranda of DePue was recognized. Miranda will graduate May 14 with AA and AAS degrees and will transfer to Loyola University Chicago in fall to major in marketing.

- The first Medical Assistant commencement March 18 honored seven graduates. Medical assistants perform a combination of administrative and clinical tasks.

Former student establishes GED scholarship for women at IVCC

OGLESBY – Taylor Richards of Olathe, Kan., has established a scholarship at Illinois Valley Community College more than a decade after she received her GED from the college.

Richards was honored in 2010-11 for her accomplishments while overcoming formidable obstacles and she told her story at GED graduation.

She recently reached back from her Kansas home to create a \$1,000 annual award at IVCC for adult women who are GED graduates.

“IVCC has a special place in my heart because I would not be where I am today without its GED program,” Richards said.

Richards credits Sara Escatel, Cindy Lock and (now retired) coordinator Mary Gross of IVCC’s Adult Education program for her success.

“They were all amazing. IVCC is such a great school,” Richards says.

Lock remembers Richards well.

“Taylor faced obstacles head-on and persevered to achieve her High School Equivalency (GED) and transitioned successfully into higher education. It is inspiring to see what she has made of her life,” said Lock. “And it is so kind of her to give back



Taylor Richards speaking at IVCC’s 2011 GED graduation. (Photo contributed)

to help other students.”

When Richards, then Taylor Sulgrove, arrived at IVCC in August 2009 she did not know multiplication and struggled with spelling and grammar. By the time she earned her GED in May 2010, she was on her way.

“Education is so important,” Richards said. “I started a scholarship to encourage women to take care of themselves. Going back to school is hard. If this helps someone, that’s all that matters.”

When husband Tanner changed jobs, Richards

- Corcoran thanked outgoing Student Government Association (SGA) members Emme Bottom, Caroline Moskalewicz, Raven Bridges, Natalie Orozco, and Miranda for their service to students and IVCC.

- The electronic sign at Moyle and Orlando Smith Road has been reactivated and enhanced and the softball diamond has a scoreboard.

- A recruiting guide was published recently thanks to major contributions from Aseret Loveland, Samantha Manahan, Jennifer Heredia, SGA president Emme Bottom and alumna Kaitlyn Anthony.

- The April 2 drive-through job fair attracted job seekers picking up packets containing openings at 35 employers. IVCC partnered with Business Employment Skills Team (BEST) and district chambers of commerce.

- Weather-permitting, an EMS medevac helicopter was to land near the softball diamond as part of paramedic training. Emergency Medical Responders (EMR) and Emergency Medical Technicians-Basic (EMT-B) students were also expected to participate.

- Nursing instructors Chrissy Boughton and Tracey Antle spearheaded a donation drive for Illinois Valley PADS that generated a cart-load of supplies for the shelter.

- The Foundation’s April 6 Giving Day attracted more than 90 donors who contributed about \$27,000.

- Employees Crystal Credi, Karen Gregorich, Kim Herout, Michelle Carboni and Sandy Beard recently prepared 70 food insecurity boxes for students in need.

- Regarding the April 9 passage of the state’s 2023 budget, Corcoran said, “The good news for community colleges is it includes a 5 percent 2022 supplemental increase, that is also now in place for the 2023 budget.”

“In addition, there is a 5 percent increase in funding for Adult Education and Career and Technical Education, and more money for MAP grants.”

- The Economic Development Corporation of North Central Illinois renewed its lease at IVCC for \$4,284.

- IVCC will follow several other community colleges and close Monday, June 20 to observe Juneteenth National Independence Day.

- Part-time instructors Janet Kirk (CNA) and Jesse Rodriguez-Hammond (GED) resigned.

- IVCC English instructor Delores Robinson shared a AFT Local 1810 ‘spotlight’ on the student organization Gender and Sexuality Alliance. GSA serves the interests of the LGBTQIA+ community and is a welcoming and safe space for all people supporting gender and sexual diversity.

- Robinson also recognized retiring English instructor Randy Rambo. She closed with a tribute from colleague Dr. Kimberly Radek-Hall: “Randy has proved himself a mentor, a leader, and a good friend, demonstrating his intelligence, professionalism, and caring for others every day, in the classroom and out of it, on campus and off. The department will be diminished by his absence.”

Community Calendar

MAY 2022

May 2, 9, 16 & 23

EXERCISES

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8 AM

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

May 2, 9, 16 & 23

DOMINOES

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1 PM

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

May 2

COMMUNITY BINGO

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

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

May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

WII BOWLING

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

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

May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

EUCHRE

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

Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
Admission \$3. Cash Prizes
awarded at end of play.
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 3

PLAYER’S CHOICE

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

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

May 4

SHAKE, RATTLE AND READ
“EXERCISE”

Grave-Hume Public Library
11 AM
Grave-Hume Public Library
Birth to 2 years old (siblings
welcome)
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 4

SMALL FRIES YOGA WITH
MS. KATRINA

Grave-Hume Public Library
4 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
3 years to kindergarten
Children must dress in workout
clothes, no dresses, no socks,
no shoes. Bring water.
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 4, 11, 18 & 25

CORN HOLE GAME

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

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

May 5

LEGO CLUB

Grave-Hume Public Library
4 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
First through eighth grade
Come and build Legos with
friends
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 5

BIZARRE HISTORY OF
ILLINOIS - STRANGE
STORIES FROM OUR PAST
WITH CHAD LEWIS

Grave-Hume Public Library
7 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
Please call the library to
register
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 5, 12, 19 & 26

EXERCISES

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

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

May 5 & 19

HEARING CLINIC

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Civic Center
9:30 AM to 1 PM
Mendota Civic Center
Hearing aid batteries available
at MASS. Appointments
recommended by calling
Sterling Hearing Aid at
815-626-3220.
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 5, 12, 19 & 26

POKENO

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 5, 12, 19 & 26

QUILT & CRAFT CLUB

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor – Mendota
Civic Center
Bring your craft item materials
to work on while visiting with
others!
For more info call
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May 6 & 20

COLOR ME CALM

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9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
Will provide necessary
supplies.
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 6, 13, 20 & 27

WORD GAMES

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
10 AM to 11 AM
Feik Senior Parlor – Mendota
Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 6

MOTHER’S DAY TEA

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12 PM to 2 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
Please pre-register at M.A.S.S.
office. Wear your favorite hat -
bring your favorite tea cup.
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 10 & 24

BLOOD PRESSURE & BLOOD
SUGAR CHECK

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11 AM to 12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 10

YAHTZEE

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

May 12

SHAKE, RATTLE AND READ

“EXERCISE”

Grave-Hume Public Library
6 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
Birth to 2 years old (siblings
welcome) Repeat of May 4
program
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 13, 20 & 27

BINGO

Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more information call
(815) 539-7700

May 16

LEGO CLUB #2

Grave-Hume Public Library
4 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
First through eighth grade
Come and build Legos with
friends
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 17

LEFT, RIGHT, CENTER

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

May 17

3RD TUESDAY BOOK

DISCUSSION
Grave-Hume Public Library
1 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
Pick up a book at the library
before discussion. The May
discussion will be “The Good
Sister” by Sally Hepworth
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 17

3RD TUESDAY BOOK

DISCUSSION
Grave-Hume Public Library
6 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
Pick up a book at the library
before discussion. The May
discussion will be “The Good
Sister” by Sally Hepworth
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 18

SHAKE, RATTLE AND READ

“WEATHER”
Grave-Hume Public Library
11 AM
Grave-Hume Public Library
Birth to 2 years old (siblings
welcome)
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 20

LUNCH IN THE PARK

Mendota Area Chamber of
Commerce
11 AM to 1:30 PM
Veteran’s Park
Pork Chop, brats, hot dogs,
hamburgers and sandwiches
For more info call
(815) 539-6507

May 24

BUNCO

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

May 25

MOVIE: “HAPPY TEARS”
Sponsored by M.A.S.S. and
Graves-Hume Library
3 PM

Graves-Hume Public Library
M.A.S.S. will provide snacks
and beverages.
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 26

SHAKE, RATTLE AND READ

“WEATHER”
Grave-Hume Public Library
6 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
Birth to 2 years old (siblings
welcome) Repeat of May 18
program
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

May 27

POTLUCK

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12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
Please bring a dish to pass and
your own table service.
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

May 31

MICHIGAN RUMMY

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

May 31

AFTER SCHOOL MOVIE

“ENCANTO”
rated PG
Grave-Hume Public Library
4 PM
Grave-Hume Public Library
All ages invited. Children 6 and
under are required to have an
adult present
For more info call
(815) 538-5142

COVID vaccine available at public health dept.

OTTAWA – The LaSalle County Health Department has COVID-19 vaccine available at the Health Department by appointment only, Tuesday, Wednesday and

Thursday. The Health Department has Johnson and Johnson, Moderna, and Pfizer vaccine available.

Residents who still need to be vaccinated or

are in need of a Booster dose should visit the department website, www.lasallecounty.org, click on the COVID-19 Resource Page and then the Vaccine information.



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The Mendota Reporter.
These are some of the local businesses who
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Homestead Realty
Illinois Valley Community
College

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Services
Impact Networking, LLC
J J & L Carpentry
James Fitzpatrick
Janelaine Boutique

LOCAL AND AREA

IVCC gives teaching excellence award

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College automotive technology program coordinator Art Koudelka was selected by colleagues this spring as the recipient of the college's prestigious Stephen Charry Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence.

Koudelka has been preparing students for jobs in the automotive industry for more than three decades. Prior to his 33 years at IVCC, he

taught part-time at College of DuPage for five years and full-time at Reavis High School for two.



Koudelka

Elizabeth Grimland said, "When I have a question,

I know I can rely on Art to provide helpful direction and motivation. Everything we are taught revolves around making the right choices."

As part of his selection, Koudelka has been nominated for the Illinois Community College Trustees Association 2022 Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Award. All nominees will be honored at the ICCTA's annual convention and banquet in Chicago in June.

He will also be honored at IVCC's employee recognition reception Friday, April 22 at Grand Bear Lodge in Utica.

Koudelka led the effort to ensure IVCC's program is Automotive Service Excellence-certified and he is an ASE Master Certified Automotive Technician.

His extensive expertise in the profession allows

him to teach numerous courses including basic gas engines, manual and automatic transmissions, fuel systems, heating and air-conditioning, steering, suspension and braking systems.

Koudelka is Past President of the Illinois College Automotive Instructors Association and has been the Executive Treasurer the past 25 years. He is also a member of the Automatic Transmission Rebuilders Association.

Among his greatest achievements is the high number of automotive technology graduates on the floors of district dealerships, independent repair shops and parts stores.

A married father of three, Koudelka was a youth hockey coach and referee for more than 30 years.



Peer tutor Kelly Devert, left, and professional tutor Kath Scheibenreif, right, assist student Francine Brandt with calculus in IVCC's Tutoring and Writing Center. The center will be available to students all summer.

IVCC offering many summer classes

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College is offering dozens of in-person and blended summer classes beginning Monday, May 16. 'Summer A' runs May 16 to June 7, 'Summer B' May 31 to July 26 and 'Summer C' June 8 to July 20.

IVCC has in-person sum-

mer courses in accounting, advanced cardiac life support, algebra, anatomy and physiology, applied music in piano and guitar, automotive technology, biology, business, chemistry, CNA, comparative religions, criminal justice, English, First Aid, global environment, human body structure and function, International Trauma Life Support (ITLS), microbiology, precalculus, speech, theatre and more than 20 classes covering various welding techniques.

There are also over 40 courses available online this summer.

Register for summer and fall classes by calling Records at (815) 224-0447.

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Mother's Day Tea Party

Wear your favorite hat and bring your best teacup!

Hosted By:

Mendota Area Senior Center

When:

Friday, May 6 * 12 Noon

Where:

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RSVP By:

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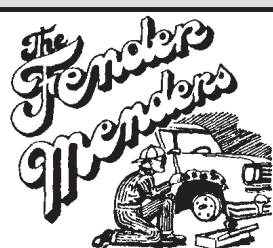
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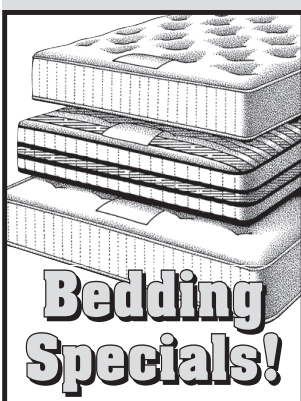
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FREE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Thursday, May 5, 2022

5-8pm

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MINI KING & QUEEN COMPETITION
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These fine businesses encourage you to join in the festivities and fun!

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Mendota
815-539-6124

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Street, Mendota
815-539-7801

Sullivans Foods
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Mendota
815-539-9341

**Flamingo Banquet
Center**
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LaSalle
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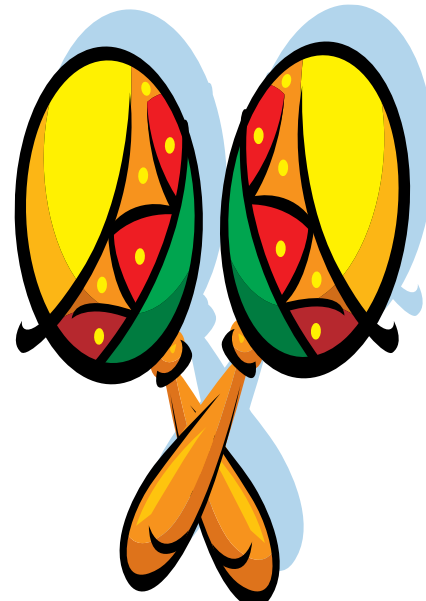
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Personal Injury
Attorney**
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815-539-5616

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

Midland States Bank
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THE BACK PAGE



IDOT is ramping up litter removal

SPRINGFIELD—Spring is here, the weather is getting warmer and the Illinois Department of Transportation is reminding the public to be on the lookout for maintenance teams picking up litter throughout the state. As part of its ongoing Think Before You Throw! initiative, IDOT is stepping up efforts to remove litter from roadsides while encouraging you to be part of the solution.

"Litter might seem like a temporary problem, but it can have long-term, far-reaching impacts," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. "During the pandemic, we have observed much more littering taking place. We are committed to helping maintain a positive impression of Illinois by keeping roadsides clean, but we can't do it alone. We're asking you to think before you throw and properly dispose of trash."

The Think Before You Throw! campaign aims to reduce roadside litter by raising awareness of its impacts.

Litter is more than just an eyesore – it has real, negative consequences for the environment and communities, while unnecessarily costing taxpayers millions of dollars a year. In 2021, IDOT spent approximately \$41.3 million statewide on picking up litter, sweeping shoulders and removing large debris. That's the equivalent of resurfacing 21 miles of four lanes of interstate or purchasing 261 new maintenance trucks that also plow snow in winter.

Across Illinois, IDOT forces have resumed and expanded litter removal operations, which will continue throughout the spring and summer. If you encounter maintenance vehicles and workers, please slow down, move over, and give them space – it's the law.

Other litter facts:

- Roadside litter causes distractions that can lead to dangerous crashes. It also requires maintenance operations that put workers in potentially hazardous situations.

- Littering is illegal and subject to a fine of up to \$1,500 in Illinois. In addition to other penalties, violators may be required to maintain litter control over a portion of highway for 30 days.
- Litter kills plants and animals.
- Litter is unsightly. No one likes litter in their community.
- Littering is a problem that's easily controlled and preventable. Use a trash can instead.
- Remember: Think before you throw!

Last year, IDOT's Adopt-A-Highway program resumed normal operations after they were temporarily suspended due to COVID-19. Volunteers logged 766 hours while participating in 1,317 cleanup activities. Almost 1,600 bags of garbage were collected, with a VCR, car parts, and an assortment of old gym shoes among the items collected and properly disposed.

To learn more about how to become a volunteer, visit the Adopt-A-Highway page to fill out an online application and "adopt" a two-mile section of highway.

GARAGE SALES & NOTICES

EARLVILLE TOWN-WIDE GARAGE SALES
April 29 & 30
8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Maps available.
1t17msr

POLICE BLOTTER

WARRANT ARREST

May A. Yarim, 49, of Lansing, Mich., was arrested at 8:58 p.m. April 20 on valid Will County and DeKalb County arrest warrants for failure to appear/driving while license suspended. The subject posted bond and was released with court dates in Will and DeKalb counties.

NO VALID LICENSE

Ivan Gomez, 34, of 1109 Sixth St., Mendota, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at 12th Avenue and Sixth Street at 4:14 p.m. April 24. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

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IVCC medical assistant program holds first graduation

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Medical Assistant program celebrated seven graduates at its first graduation ceremony recently in the Dr. Mary Margaret Weeg Cultural Centre.

Graduates include Brandee Bernhardt and Emily Mitchell of Oglesby, Christine Buckley of Ransom, Breanne Fultz of Mendota, Danya Garcia and Melissa Lisette Serna of Ottawa and Kelly Smith of Princeton.

IVCC's four-semester, 29.5 credit hour program began in January 2020.

Medical assistants perform a combination of administrative and clinical tasks such as initial patient assessment, physical exams, medical histories, collection and processing of samples and patient prep, among other duties.

A few seats remain in the program's next start in August. Contact program coordinator Kaity Ritter at (815) 224-0274 or Kaity_ritter@ivcc.edu. To register, call Records at (815) 224-0447.



IVCC's first Medical Assistant graduating class included, left to right, Dayna Garcia, Melissa Lisette Serna, Breanne Fultz, program coordinator Kaity Ritter, Kelly Smith and Brandee Bernhardt. Graduates Emily Mitchell of Oglesby and Christine Buckley of Ransom were unable to attend the ceremony. (Photo contributed)

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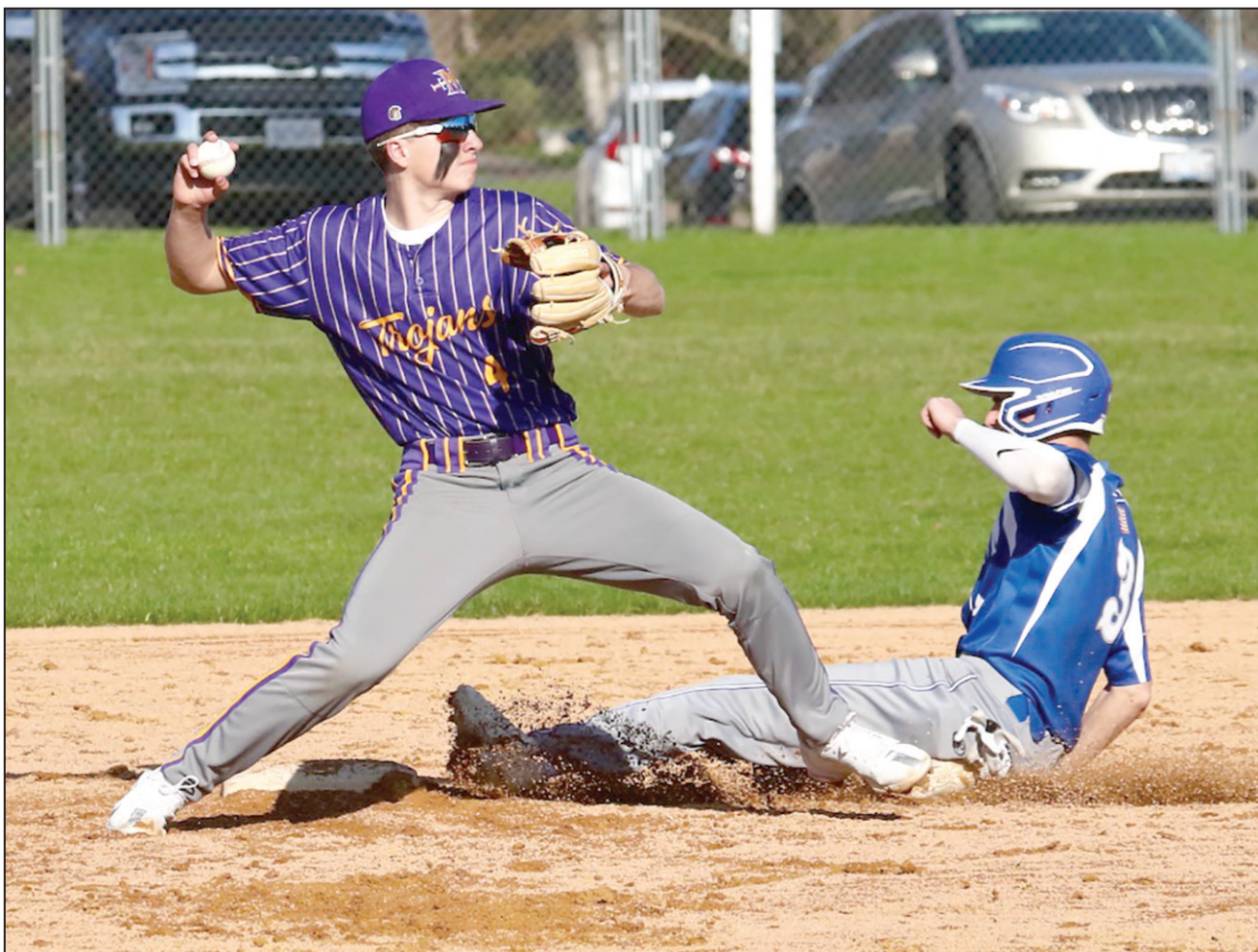
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SPORTS



Mendota's Dominik Stamberger tries to turn a double play during the Trojans' contest at Princeton on April 21. (Photo courtesy of Bureau County Republican)

Trojans struggle to come up with wins

Hall pulled away late and dealt Mendota a 10-2 loss on April 12 at Spring Valley.

The Red Devils jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first. Mendota got one run back in the third, but Hall scored a single run in the fourth and six in the sixth to claim the victory.

The Trojans collected five hits, with Krew Bond hammering a solo homer and a single. He drove in both of Mendota's runs. Emilio Perez added a double.

Izaiah Nanez was the starting pitcher, working 5 1/3 innings. He allowed seven hits, eight runs, walked two and struck out five. Ryne Strauss finished up on the mound.

Hall and Mendota met again on April 14, this time in Mendota, and the result was the same — an 11-0 Red Devil win.

Hall took a 2-0 lead in the opening stanza, then it pushed across three runs in the third, one in the fourth and five in the fifth. The game was halted after five frames because of the 10-run rule.

Mendota could only muster two hits — singles by Nanez and Perez.

Dominik Stamberger got the ball for the Trojans and worked three innings. Landon Kreiser came on in relief.

A pitcher's duel between Mendota and Princeton went to the Tigers, 2-1, on April 19 at Princeton.

Princeton scored a run off of Trojan starter Nanez in the first inning and Mendota tied

it in the third on an RBI base hit by Perez.

The game remained tied until the sixth when the Tigers plated the game-winning tally.

The Trojans managed just three hits off of two Princeton pitchers. Perez singled and doubled, while Justin Randolph added a single.

Nanez gave up six hits and two earned runs in six innings. He struck out seven and did not issue a walk.

Mendota held Princeton scoreless for six innings, but the Tigers scored all five of their runs in the top of the seventh to post a 5-1 win over the Trojans on April 21 at Princeton. The Trojans were the home team, as the game was moved from Mendota to Princeton because of unplayable conditions at the Mendota diamonds.

The Trojans grabbed a 1-0 lead in the fifth when Landon Kreiser walked and later came around to score. But Mendota couldn't maintain the narrow lead as Princeton plated five runs in the seventh.

Bond pitched the first six innings for Mendota and gave up three hits and one run. He walked six and fanned eight. He got into trouble in the seventh and was relieved by Ted Landgraf, who was tagged with the loss.

Mendota collected four hits off of two Princeton hurlers. Stamberger had a double for the Trojans.

Mendota put together a late rally, but it wasn't enough



Mendota's Ryne Strauss shoots a ball to the right side in action from a game at Princeton on April 21. (Photo courtesy of Bureau County Republican)

in a 4-3 loss to Riverdale on April 23 at Port Byron.

Riverdale held a 1-0 lead through four innings before it struck for three runs in the fifth to go up 4-0. The score stayed that way until the top of the seventh when Mendota pushed across three runs, but the rally came up a tally short.

The Trojans had just three hits in the contest, including a double by Jace Baird. Perez, Braiden Freeman and Ryne Strauss had the RBI for Mendota.

Mendota used three pitchers, starting off with Kreiser, who took the loss. He worked three innings and gave up two hits and one earned run. He walked two and fanned two. Landgraf and Stamberger also had stints on the mound.

Newman doubled up the Trojans, 8-4, on April 25 at the MHS diamond.

The Comets broke out of the gate with four runs in the top of the first and the Trojans were never able to catch up.

Mendota outhit Newman, 11-9, but Newman walloped a pair of home runs. Cale Strauss had three singles and an RBI for the Trojans. Bond added a single, triple and a run batted in, Landgraf had two singles and one RBI, and Nanez doubled.

Nanez was the losing pitcher, working five innings and allowing seven hits and seven runs (four earned). Kreiser pitched the final two frames for the Trojans (2-10, 1-7).

Manning pitches Lady Trojans to pair of victories

□ Mendota tops Riverdale, Newman

Princeton shut down Mendota, 11-0, in varsity softball action on April 21 at Princeton. The game was stopped early because of the 10-run rule.

Neither team dented home plate through three innings, and the Lady Trojans went scoreless again in the top of the fourth, but Princeton broke the game wide open when it tallied all 11 of its runs in the bottom of the fourth.

A single by Mendota's Emma Schultz proved to be the lone hit the Lady Trojans could get off of Princeton hurler Katie Bates.

Paige Manning took the loss for Mendota. She allowed 12 hits, no earned runs, walked two and struck out one.

Mendota got back on the winning track with a 6-2 triumph over Riverdale on April 23 at Port Byron.

The Lady Trojans jumped in front in the first inning when Ryleigh Sondgeroth slugged a solo home run.

Mendota added to its lead with three runs in the third with Manning and Zoe Finley

driving in runs.

Riverdale got on the board with a run in the bottom of the third, but Mendota stretched the margin with two in the fifth on a Manning homer.

Mendota collected six hits in the contest. Manning drove in three runs and Finley had two RBI.

Manning went the distance in the circle, giving up 10 hits, one earned run, walking two and striking out seven.

The Lady Trojans held off Newman for a 3-2 win on April 25 at Mendota.

Manning had an RBI single to give Mendota a 1-0 lead in the first. The Lady Trojans went up 3-0 in the third with Finley driving in a run.

The game remained 3-0 until the fifth when Newman scored a run. The visitors added another run in the sixth, but Mendota held on for the victory.

Mendota totaled six hits with Manning and Katie Jenner delivering two singles apiece. Schultz added a double.

Manning earned the victory with a complete-game performance. She allowed five hits, one earned run, walked one and struck out 10.

Trackmen compete in 2 invites

The Mendota boys' track team competed in the Ferris Invitational at Princeton on April 19.

Rock Falls was atop the team standings with 243 points over second-place Princeton (193.5). Kewanee (186) took third, followed by St. Bede (150.5), Hall (131) and Mendota (37).

Mendota's best finish on the day went to Kody Chase, who claimed third place in the 1600-meter run with a time of 5:31.3. Anthony Kelson took fourth place in the 300-meter hurdles in 48.6.

April 19 — Ferris Invite
Rock Falls 243, Princeton 193.5, Kewanee 186, St. Bede 150.5, Hall 131, Mendota 37

Mendota 3rd place: Kody Chase, 1600m run, 5:31.3

Mendota 4th place: Anthony Kelson, 300m hurdles, 48.6

Mendota 5th place: Kelson, 110m hurdles, 20.14; 4x800m relay (Chase, Logan Wujek, Travis Mumm, Jacob Carr), 11:12.43

Mendota 6th place: 4x400m relay (Mason Koch,

Chase, Neal Linden, JP Belmonte), 4:21.63

Mendota 9th place: Koch, 400m dash, 1:00.48;

Koch, long jump, 16-9

Mendota 10th place: Diego Sandoval, 100m dash, 14.04; Sandoval, 200m dash, 29.6; Carr, 800m run, 2:43.75; Mumm, 1600m run, 6:53.84; Linden, shot put, 31-3; Linden, discus, 70-2

Mendota participated in the Rockford Christian Invitational on April 23 and scored seven points. Winnebago grabbed the team title with 139 points.

Kelson scored the points for the Trojans, taking fourth place in the 300-meter hurdles in a time of 49.75 and finishing seventh in the 110-meter hurdles in 19.84.

Team standings: Winnebago 139, Rockford Guilford 97.5, Decatur St. Teresa 95.5, Rockford Christian 94, Dakota 66, Aurora Central Catholic 57.5, Elgin Harvest Christian Academy 41, Peoria Christian 30, Belvidere 28.5, Hinckley-Big Rock 13.5, North Boone 13.5, Elgin St. Edward 8, Mendota 7

Mendota doubles team takes 1st place in Princeton Invite

□ Brandner-Stamberger beat five foes on way to title

The Mendota varsity boys' tennis team came away with a 3-2 triumph over Pontiac on April 19 at the MHS courts.

The Trojans got singles wins from Byron Hampton and Zach Compell, while the doubles duo of Logan Brandner and Andrew Stamberger picked up a victory.

April 19
Mendota 3, Pontiac 2
Singles: No. 1 — Byron Hampton (M) def. Gerdes (P), 6-2, 6-2; No. 2 — Zach Compell (M) def. Logan (P), 6-2, 6-2

Doubles: No. 1 — Logan Brandner-Andrew Stamberger (M) def. Trainor-Woolford (P), 6-2, 6-0; No. 2 — Miller-Rice (P) def. Tyler Valdez-Parker Guelde (M), 6-2, 6-3; No. 3 — Milam-Traylor (P) def. Eulysse Preciado-Jacob Ensor (M), 4-6, 6-3 (10-6)

Geneseo blanked the Trojans, 5-0, on April 21 at the MHS courts.

April 21

Geneseo 5, Mendota 0
Singles: No. 1 — Mosbarger (G) def. Hampton (M), 6-2, 6-1; No. 2 — Pardoe (G) def. Compell (M), 6-1, 6-0

Doubles: No. 1 — Robinson-Slaymaker (G) def. Brandner-Stamberger (M), 3-6, 6-0 (10-6); No. 2 — Nelson-Vergane (G) def. Valdez-Guelde (M), 6-0, 6-1; No. 3 — Marshall-Hartman (G) def. Preciado-Ensor (M), 6-3, 6-0

The Trojans took third place in the Princeton Invitational on April 23. Streator and Princeton tied for the top spot with 13 points apiece, while Mendota scored 12. LaSalle-Peru was next with 11 points, followed by Pontiac (6) and St. Bede (5).

Mendota's No. 1 doubles team of Brandner and Stamberger captured first place, while the No. 2 duo of Tyler Valdez and Parker Guelde finished third. Hampton also earned third-place honors at No. 1 singles.

April 23 — Princeton Invite
Streator 13, Princeton 13, Mendota 12, LaSalle-Peru 11, Pontiac 6, St. Bede 5

No. 1 singles: Hampton (M) def. Wallace (SB), 6-1, 6-0; Phillips (PR) def. Hampton (M), 6-1, 6-4; Rashid (ST) def. Hampton (M), 6-1, 6-2; Hampton (M) def. Milam (PO), 6-1, 6-4; Hampton (M) def. O'Brien (SB), 6-2, 6-2

No. 2 singles: Beck (ST) def. Compell (M), 6-1, 6-0; Compell (M) def. Lucero (LP), 6-2, 6-1; Traylor (PO) def. Compell (M), 6-4, 7-5; Guo (SB) def. Compell (M), 7-6, 6-4; Mallery (PR) def. Compell (M), 6-1, 6-2

No. 1 doubles: Brandner-Stamberger (M) def. Pohar-Bollis (LP), 6-3, 6-3; Brandner-Stamberger (M) def. Acuncius-Flanagan (SB), 6-0, 6-0; Brandner-Stamberger (M) def. Dressler-Orwig (PR), 6-4, 6-1; Brandner-Stamberger (M) def.

See Tennis, Page B2



A Fighting Saint

Bailey Baird, front center, signs to attend the University of St. Francis to play volleyball for the Fighting Saints as her parents, Kris and John, look on. Also attending the signing are Mendota High School volleyball coach Nicci Gibson, back left, and Bailey's sister, Peyton. Peyton is currently a member of the St. Francis volleyball team and will enter her final season at the Joliet university in the fall. Bailey, a senior at MHS, also considered volleyball offers from William Penn in Oskaloosa, Iowa, and Mt. Mercy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. (Reporter photo)

SPORTS

MHS girls participate in 2 invitational meets

The Mendota Lady Trojans were one of five teams in the Ferris Invitational on April 19 at Princeton.

The host school won the meet with 250 points, followed by Rock Falls (241), Hall (161), St. Bede (146) and Mendota (39).

Mendota's best finish was fifth place in three events. Alexis Finley had two of the fifth-place finishes, in the 800-meter run (3:00.30) and the 1600-meter run (6:59.62). Finley was also one of the four members of the 4x400 relay team that took fifth place in a time of 5:31.45. Natalie Bodmer, Grace Wasmer and Ella Betz also ran the relay.

April 19 – Ferris Invite
Princeton 250, Rock Falls 241, Hall 161, St. Bede 146, Mendota 39

Mendota 5th place: Alexis Finley, 800m run, 3:00.30; Finley, 1600m run, 6:59.62; 4x400m relay (Natalie Bodmer, Finley, Grace Wasmer, Ella Betz), 5:31.45

Mendota 6th place:

Bodmer, 800m run, 3:04.61; Wasmer, long jump, 13-2

Mendota 7th place: Wasmer, 100m dash, 15.19

Mendota 8th place: Wasmer, 200m dash, 32.29

Mendota 9th place: Betz, 100m dash, 17.51; Betz, 400m dash, 1:31.52; Betz, long jump, 8-5

The Lady Trojans participated in the Rockford Christian Invitational on April 23 and scored one point. Rockford Guilford was the team champion with 164 points.

Mendota's best finish went to Wasmer, who was eighth in the long jump at 12-9.25.

Team standings: Rockford Guilford 164, Belvidere 105, Rockford Christian 92, Dakota 69.5, Lena-Winslow 65, Aurora Central Catholic 59.5, North Boone 36.5, Elgin Harvest Christian Academy 26.5, Peoria Christian 24, Elgin St. Edward 18, Winnebago 10, Mendota 1, Hinckley-Big Rock 1

Tennis

Continued from Page B1

Christensen-Vogel (ST), 6-0, 6-2; Brandner-Stamberger (M) def. Trainor-Woolford (PO), 6-1, 6-0

No. 2 doubles: Valdez-Guelde (M) def. Rice-Miller (PO), 6-4, 6-4; Valdez-Guelde (M) def. Minick-Gallik (ST), 6-0, 6-2; Abens-Picco (LP) def. Valdez-Guelde (M), 6-1, 7-5; Schneider-Sims (PR) def. Valdez-Guelde (M), 7-5, 0-6 (12-10); Valdez-Guelde (M) def. Shaw-Zhang (SB), 6-1, 6-0

Mendota turned back St. Bede, 4-1, on April 25 at the MHS courts.

Hampton won in singles action, as did the Mendota doubles teams of Brandner-Stamberger, Valdez-Guelde and Jacob Ensor-Eulysse Preciado.

April 25

Mendota 4, St. Bede 1

Singles: No. 1 – Hampton (M) def. Wallace (SB), 6-2, 6-2; No. 2 – Guo (SB) def. Clayton Buffington (M), 6-4, 6-1

Doubles: No. 1 Brandner-Stamberger (M) def. Acuncius-Flanagan (SB), 6-0, 6-2; No. 2 – Valdez-Guelde (M) def. Shaw-Erwin (SB), 6-0, 6-0; No. 3 – Ensor-Preciado (M) def. Foneroli-Zhang (SB), 6-0, 6-0



Motorsports Hall of Fame inductees

The 2022 class was recently inducted into the LaSalle County Motorsports Hall of Fame. This year's honorees, left to right, are Brad Carter of Peru, Jeff Warner of Ottawa, Casey Rick of Marseilles, Hank Walsh of Ottawa (show coordinator), Art Rick of Naplate and Don Leipold of Ottawa (representing The Variety Riders). (Photo contributed)

Free boating safety classes offered at Ottawa site

OTTAWA – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, will offer three free Illinois Safe Boating classes this summer at the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center on Saturdays, May 7, June 18 and Aug. 20, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The classes are open to everyone age 11 and older. Students under age 16 should be accompanied by an adult and pre-registration is required. Upon successful completion of the class and exam, participants will receive an Illinois DNR Boat Safety Certification.

Located at 950 N. 27th Road in Ottawa, the classroom-based course will include instruction in basic boating safety, equipment and requirements, motorboat registration and titling, navigation, basic maintenance,

emergency measures, and Illinois and federal boating laws. No on-the-water experience will be offered during the class. Class materials will be provided, but participants should plan to bring their own lunch and drinks.

Illinois law requires anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1998, who intends to operate a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or more, to complete a boating safety course. The class is recommended for people who are new to boating, scouts, families that enjoy weekend boating adventures, or seasoned boaters who would like to brush up on their safe boating knowledge. Anyone over the age of 12 can be certified.

U.S. Coast Guard statistics indicate that of the accidents where the level of operator education was known, 77 percent of boating deaths occurred on boats where the boat operator had never received boating education instruction.

According to Park Ranger and Boating Instructor, Bob Petrunej, "People who go through a boating safety class are more aware of Illinois' boating laws and safety concerns. They are also more comfortable operating their vessel and can safely enjoy themselves when on the water."

For more information or to register for a class, contact Illinois Waterway Visitor Center at 815-667-4054.

MHS F-S Softball

April 23

Riverdale 9, Mendota 0

Hitting: Kirby Bond single, double; Ella Martin 2 singles
Pitching: Ella Martin (LP), 3 IP, 2 H, 0 ER, 3 BB, 1 SO; Ava Eddy 3 IP, 3 H, 2 ER, 3 BB, 4 SO

April 25

Mendota 6, Newman 1

Hitting: Ava Eddy single, 1 RBI; Leah Turner single, 1 RBI
Pitching: Eddy (WP), 3 IP, 3 H, 0 ER, 1 BB, 4 SO

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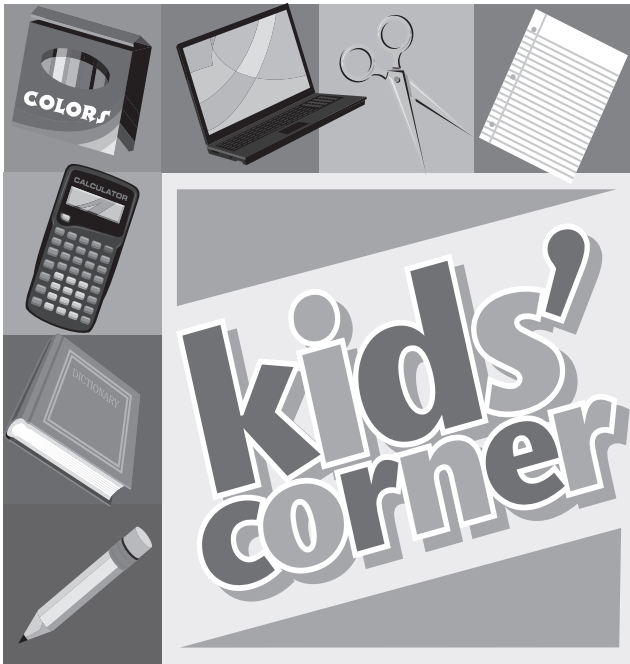
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8	0	2

Solution

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Answer: Party Time



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ENGLISH: May (month)

SPANISH: Mayo

ITALIAN: Maggio

FRENCH: Mai

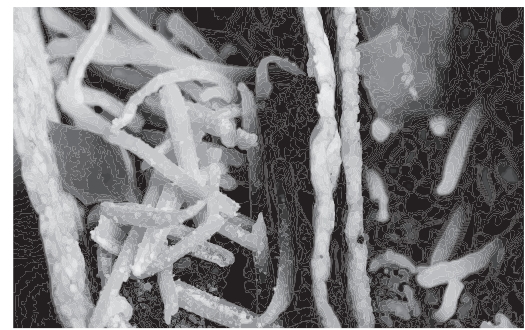
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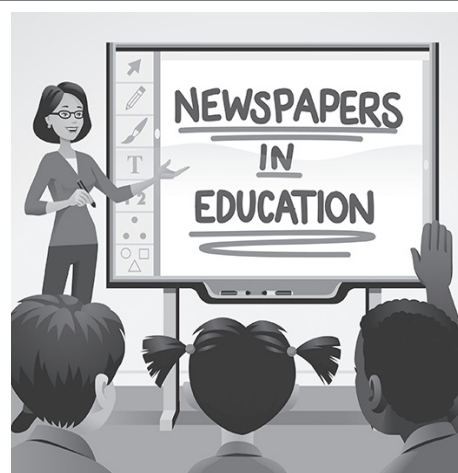
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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD--Forget "the slap heard round the world," let's talk about how the Academy "missed the boat!" They should have dragged every living Oscar winner they could get to dress up the show. When they gave "The Godfather" tribute, they also should have gotten Diane Keaton, James Caan and Talia Shire to be there with Francis Ford Coppola, Al Pacino and Robert De Niro.

Paramount+ just premiered three episodes of the 10-episode limited series "The Offer: The Making of Francis Ford Coppola's 'The Godfather.'" The series has Matthew Goode playing producer/actor Robert Evans, Giovanni Ribisi as mobster Joe Colombo, Dan Fogler as Coppola and Patrick Gallo as Mario Puzo. A fourth "Godfather" film was canceled when Puzo, who authored the book and then the screenplays with Coppola, died in 1999.

After the James Bond tribute, the lights should have come up on all living Bonds on stage, such as Pierce

Brosnan, Timothy Dalton, George Lazenby and, of course, Daniel Craig. Happy to say, James Caan and Pierce Brosnan are co-starring in the hitman thriller "Fast Charlie," with Caan playing a mob boss and Brosnan as his 20-year fixer/hitman. Caan also has "Acre Beyond the Rye" in pre-production, co-starring Lance Henriksen, Hallmark leading lady Lacey Chabert and Armand Assante. Brosnan co-stars in the Dwayne Johnson superhero film "Black Adam" and also "The Out-Law," starring Adam Devine, Ellen Barkin and Lil Rel Howery.

Disney's "Black Widow," Scarlett Johansson, and Marvel's "Captain America," Chris Evans, are sneaking behind their studios' backs to make "Project Artemis" (about the space race) for Apple TV+, directed by "Ozark's" Jason Bateman. Johansson also has Wes Anderson's "Asteroid City," along with Margot Robbie, Tom Hanks and Bill Murray. Chris Evans, in addition to being the voice of Buzz in "Lightyear," also has

Netflix's "The Gray Man" with Ana de Armas and Ryan Gosling, and Apple TV+ "Ghosts," with de Armas and Adrian Brody, coming up.

It wasn't that long ago that Alexander Skarsgard, currently playing the recurring role of Lucas Matsson in "Succession," complained, "Starting out in Sweden, where most people are tall and blond, I was labeled 'stupid, sexy and hunky' on a list, and people didn't take me seriously." After 76 episodes of "True Blood" and winning an Emmy for "Big Little Lies," he felt secure enough to take his shirt off and play Tarzan to great success. Now starring opposite Nicole Kidman again in "The Northman," his co-star Ralph Ineson observed, "He's made himself look like some kind of a monster for this part, and I thought, 'That's not a bodybuilder, that's a serious actor.'" Since Skarsgard never stops working ... stupid, sexy and hunky absolutely works for him!

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Couch Theater

"The Batman" (PG-13)--It's finally time to watch this long-awaited film at home! Directed by Matt Reeves, the legendary superhero Batman is darkly portrayed by Robert Pattinson in a tone that's never been seen before. Batman's gloom extends to his alter ego, Bruce Wayne, whose persona is far from the suave billionaire we've come to know in other films. Bruce has outcasted himself, pouring every fiber into being the Batman, and the heaviness weighs him down greatly. Only when a series of murders, committed by the morbidly comical Riddler, start to unravel the pent-up pain and trauma long hidden within Bruce does the Batman earn the title of being a superhero. Zoe Kravitz stars opposite Pattinson as the alluring Selina Kyle, who doubles as Catwoman. (HBO Max)

"Crush" (PG-13)--High-school student Paige (Rowan Blanchard) dreams of getting into art school, but finds she's lacking the inspiration

to make something worthy of getting accepted. Those closest to her advise her to loosen up a little, instead of putting so much pressure on herself. So, Paige tries to follow their advice by joining the track team with the intent of getting closer to her crush, Gabby. But when the track coach assigns Gabby's sister, AJ (Auli'i Cravalho), to help train Paige, a classic love triangle ensues, and Paige becomes torn on which sister is her true crush. Premieres April 29. (Hulu)

"Silverton Siege" (TV-MA)--Based on true events that occurred in South Africa in 1980, this nail-biting action thriller focuses on three anti-apartheid freedom fighters whose mission ends in failure, which forces them into the standoff of their lives. The fighters enter a bank and keep several hostages, but realize once they're in the standoff that it will only yield two results for them: prison or death. So, they decide to use this high-risk situation as an opportunity for the launch of a global movement. The three fighters agree to release the hostages and end the standoff in exchange for the release of anti-apartheid revolutionary Nelson Mandela, who is being held in prison. Premieres April 27. (Netflix)

"Polar Bear" (PG)--Disney+ takes viewers on an adventure to the Arctic to visit a longtime favorite animal, the polar bear, in the latest Disney nature movie. According to World Wildlife, Arctic polar bears were listed as a threatened species in 2008 because of the effects of climate change on their habitats. Following a mother polar bear and her cubs throughout the seasons of one of the coldest environments in the world, this documentary showcases their journey as the cubs begin to grow and adapt to their changing Arctic home. Previous Disney nature movies include "Penguins," "Bears" and "Oceans." (Disney+)

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: I keep seeing Elle Fanning in different TV shows, but I haven't seen her older sister, Dakota, in a long time. Is she still acting?

-- S.D.



A: Dakota Fanning was born in Conyers, Georgia, to athletic parents. Her mother was a professional tennis player, and her father played minor-league baseball. According to IMDb.com, little Dakota used to put on plays in her backyard. When audience members noticed her natural talent, the family moved to Los Angeles, and it wasn't long before Dakota became a star in movies like "The Cat in the Hat" and "War of the Worlds." In 2011, Dakota enrolled at NYU, majoring in women's studies.

She hasn't quit acting, however. She starred in the limited series "The Alienist" on TNT, which was set in the late 19th century. You also can see her in the new HBO series "The First Lady," where she plays President Gerald Ford's

daughter, Susan. Elle Fanning, who is four years Dakota's junior, also was a child actress. At age 13, she stepped outside her sister's shadow with the lead role in the sci-fi flick "Super 8," followed by the Disney live-action film "Maleficent" and its sequel. Like her sister, she's a frequent nominee at award shows, mainly for her starring role in the Hulu series "The Great." She's starring in "The Girl from Plainville," also on Hulu.

Fanning fans will be thrilled to learn that both Dakota and Elle will play sisters in "The Nightingale," an upcoming film based on the bestselling novel set in World War II.

Q: I was so sad to read that the actress who played Jerry's mom on "Seinfeld" passed away. Is the actor who played his father still with us?

-- K.M.

A: Sadly, the hilarious Barney Martin, who played Jerry's dad, Morty, on the classic sitcom, died in 2005 at the age of 82. Liz Sheridan, who played Jerry's mom, passed away recently at age 93, just two weeks after

we lost Estelle Harris, who played George's (Jason Alexander) petite mom on the show. You can watch reruns of "Seinfeld" on the Comedy Central channel or stream all nine seasons on Netflix.

Q: I saw that James Patterson's latest novel is written in collaboration with Dolly Parton. How did this come about?

A: Prolific author James Patterson is a big fan of fellow septuagenarian Dolly Parton and approached her with an idea about his latest manuscript. They met up in Nashville, found they had a lot in common -- having both grown up in small towns -- and began the creative process of writing a novel and an accompanying album of the same name: "Run Rose Run." Both were released in March, and there's talk of a feature film as well.

Parton told "Entertainment Weekly" that she'd like to play the role of Ruthanna, a retired country music star, in the film. The leading role of the Nashville hopeful, Annie Lee, has yet to be cast, but Patterson promises the part is "a real star-maker."

• Trivia Test •

1. LANGUAGE: What is the practice of chiromancy?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is unusual about the date the Chinese New Year is celebrated each year?
3. ACRONYMS: What phrase does "http" stand for?
4. MUSIC: Which Beatles' song asks listeners to "take a sad song and make it better"?
5. TELEVISION: What is the name of SpongeBob Squarepants' best friend in the animated series?
6. GEOGRAPHY: Nairobi is the capital of which African country?
7. MOVIES: Which two male actors starred in "The Sting" (1973)?
8. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby oyster called?
9. HISTORY: In its planning stages, which World War II attack

- was coined "Operation Z" by the Japanese?
10. LITERATURE: During which war is the novel "All the Light We Cannot See" set?
- Answers
1. Predicting the future by reading the lines on your palms
 2. It varies between Jan. 21-Feb. 20, depending on the lunar calendar
 3. HyperText Transfer Protocol
 4. "Hey Jude"
 5. Patrick
 6. Kenya
 7. Paul Newman and Robert Redford
 8. A spat
 9. The attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941
 10. World War II
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Karate level
- 5 Caprice
- 9 Perch
- 12 Writer Wiesel
- 13 Car
- 14 Man-mouse link
- 15 Time between vernal equinoxes
- 17 "Viva -- Vegas"
- 18 Wesley of "Blade"
- 19 Striped critter
- 21 Symbol of strength
- 22 Chirp
- 24 Right on the map?
- 27 -- chi
- 28 Evening, in an ad
- 31 Duo
- 32 Grass shack
- 33 Feedbag tid-bit
- 34 Big name in scat
- 36 Boom times
- 37 "Mad Money" network
- 38 Beetle
- 39 Bailey's boss
- 40 Italian river
- 41 "Untrue!"
- 43 "Jurassic Park" bird
- 47 Paris pal
- 48 Game for one
- 51 Pouch
- 52 Daring Knieval
- 53 Village People hit
- 54 Exist
- 55 Fill fully
- 56 Fashion line?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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41	42					43		44	45	46
47				48	49	50				
51				52			53			
54				55				56		

- 7 Call -- day abbr.
- 8 Code name?
- 9 Puzzle answer
- 10 Persia, today
- 11 To-do list item
- 16 "Toy Story" dinosaur
- 20 Understand-ing
- 22 Hosiery shade
- 23 Funny folks
- 24 Paris summer
- 25 Piercing tool
- 26 Start of summer or winter
- 27 Hoodlum
- 29 Bar bill
- 30 List-ending
- 35 Small batteries
- 37 Patients' shares
- 39 Kentucky Derby prize
- 40 Bit of butter
- 41 Houston acronym
- 42 Actor Epps
- 43 Anger
- 44 Marathoner's stat
- 45 Killer whale
- 46 500 sheets
- 49 Eggs
- 50 Allow

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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LOCAL AND AREA



Zonta International District 6 Governor Anna Weselak, left, Golden Z Club member Leah Meyers, LP Area club president and Golden Z sponsor Dr. Kimberly Radek-Hall, Golden Z Club member Paige Blackburn and Zonta District Z and Golden Z Club Chair Janice Corrigan at the recent chartering ceremony in Peru. (Photo contributed)

IVCC student organization gets chartered

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's SAGE student organization was recently chartered by Zonta International as a Golden Z Club.

A chartering ceremony was held at a Peru restaurant during the yearly InterCity Meeting hosted by the LaSalle Peru Area Zonta Club. Zontians from LaSalle-Peru Area, Ottawa and Streator clubs were in attendance for the dinner meeting and chartering ceremony.

IVCC instructor Dr. Kimberly Radek Hall, President of the LaSalle Area club, gave the welcome and conducted the meeting. Zonta District 6 Area Director Rhonda Thomas of Kankakee gave a keynote address featuring Zonta's service and advocacy projects done at local, district and global levels.

Z and Golden Z Club District Chair Janice Corrigan of Streator conducted the chartering and District 6 Governor Anna Weselak of

Lombard presented the framed club charter to student club members Leah Meyers, Paige Blackburn and advisor Radek-Hall.

Weselak then presented the club an honorary gavel and sound block for meetings. Club members were also given yellow rose pins and a copy of bylaws to signify their membership.

Through Z and Golden Z Club programs, members work to bring Zonta International's mission to students around the world and to stimulate new and meaningful student-led service and advocacy projects.

Z clubs are formed on secondary school campuses or in communities and Golden Z clubs are formed on college and university campuses. Student clubs develop communication and leadership skills, explore career alternatives and increase international awareness and understanding through service.

For information, visit: www.zonta.org.

IVCC donates to Ukraine cause

OTTAWA – Illinois Valley Community College's Ottawa Center acted quickly to secure donations following an appeal for the people of Ukraine.

Joanne Kammerer, treasurer of Christ Episcopal Church, said, "We received a request from a church in Morris collecting toiletries, medical supplies and shelf-stable food for the people of Ukraine."

"As a small church tasked with a tall order, I reached out to Ottawa Center counselor Valery Calveti in hopes they would be able to help us," Kammerer said.

Ottawa Center responded. "I sent a few texts to students, employees, faculty, retired faculty and community partners," said Calveti. "Donations literally poured in."

"With the logistics company departing the little Ukrainian Village in Chicago soon, we had just a few days to gather supplies. The spirit of generosity and response of the community was amazing."

"So many people and organizations contributed including the employees of LaSalle County Health Department – to students in our



Donations pile up at Christ Episcopal Church in Ottawa. (Photo contributed)

Tai Chi class," said Calveti. "The pace of donations was so rapid I couldn't track or thank them fast enough for their kindness."

Assisted by students from the Regional Office of Edu-

cation high school completion program, Ottawa Center personnel recently loaded donations into vehicles destined for Ukrainian Village and ultimately the people of war-ravaged Ukraine.

IVCC elects student government officers

OGLESBY – Nicolette Kendall of Streator has been elected president of the Illinois Valley Community College Student Government Association following recent sophomore elections. Ty Perin of Peru was elected Vice-President.

Austin Dille of Ottawa was elected student trustee, Rilan Rosengren of Ottawa, treasurer, and Sydnee Wright of Peru, secretary.

Lauren Phillips of LaSalle won election to the sophomore programming board, while

Raven Bridges of LaSalle won Sophomore Representative.

Student Activities Coordinator Cory Tomasson said, "I am excited to have such a great group of students getting involved in the SGA."

"We have a couple freshmen returning next year, who will give the group some prior knowledge of on-going projects. New members are already active in other areas at IVCC and will bring great ideas to the organization," he added.

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LOCAL AND AREA

The miraculous mercy of God!

Mercy is one of God's amazing, supernatural characteristics. In Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary, mercy is defined as "that benevolence, mildness or tenderness of heart which disposes a person to overlook injuries, or to treat an offender better than he deserves."1

Mercy is not fair, but it's godly. Not fair, but powerful. Not fair, but Christlike. And when we do what God leads us to do, He always brings justice into our life. To be merciful like God, we need to learn to trust Him more fully. Every single one of us has opportunities to do that each day... with friends and family,

coworkers and people around you wherever you go throughout your day.

Whenever people hurt or disappoint us, our human nature leads us to dislike them because of their shortcomings. But God's desire for us is to love all people, including our enemies (see Matthew 5:43-48).

If they can see love in your heart, instead of anger and judgment, that shows them kindness or benevolence that overlooks injuries and treats people who mistreat you better than they deserve. More importantly, it gives them hard evidence that Christ is working in you! And one of the greatest

privileges we have in life is to follow His example by giving mercy to others as they need it.

Mercy Doesn't Keep Count

When someone hurts or offends us, it's easy to make a list and keep count of everything they've ever done wrong. But God is asking us to be like Him.

Lamentations 3:22-23 tells us that God's mercies are new every morning. In Isaiah 43:25 He says, "I am he who blots out your transgressions...and remembers your sins no more" (NIV).

When my husband, Dave, and I were newly married, I was pretty good at keeping score. Every time we had an argument, I would bring up every single thing he had done that had offended me since the day I met him.

I'll never forget one day, after I recited my list, when Dave looked at me and said, "Where in the world do you keep all that stuff?"

I've learned the best thing we can do for ourselves is to let go of the hurt...to lose count of how others have wronged us...and leave the past in the past.

The Why Behind the What

I always say that mercy understands the "why" behind the "what." It cares about the person, not just what they've done to us.

Let's say you're at a grocery store and the checkout clerk is grouchy with you and has a sour look. You have a choice... You can say, "I don't



appreciate your attitude. I am a customer here and I don't like the way you're acting. I'm going to tell your manager."

Or you can be merciful and say, "It looks like you're having a hard day. I just want to say that God loves you and really cares about you." You can believe the best about that person and realize they are upset for a reason.

When someone hurts us, often our first inclination is to think, "You're not going to treat me that way. And if you think you're going to get by with it, you have another thing coming!"

However, it helps to remember that everyone who acts badly is hurting in some way.

When I first met Dave, I had a lot of problems from the sexual and emotional abuse I endured growing up. I was wounded and hurting, and it seemed like every other day I was starting an argument or saying something I regretted.

Because Dave already had a strong relationship with the Lord, he continuously showed me mercy and loved me in spite of my behavior. No matter how badly I acted the night before, he wasn't mad the next morning. He didn't let my behavior change his character.

You Reap What You Sow

Luke 6:36-37 says, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged...Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (NIV).

We reap what we sow, and whatever we give to others is what we'll receive in return. If you want mercy, then sow mercy. If you need a friend, then sow friendliness. If you have financial needs, then look for ways to meet someone else's needs.

It's easy to judge. I cringe when I look back at the extremely critical and judgmental person I used to be. In fact, before I was a serious Christian, judging others was one of my favorite things to do.

I would sit at the mall and watch people walk by, sizing them up and thinking negative things about their clothes, hair, or the people around them.

But the Bible says, "Do not judge" (Luke 6:37 NIV). I wasn't only sowing bad seed, I was making myself miserable by not walking in love and believing the best of others.

The truth is, when we sow mercy, we reap a harvest of peace, joy and healthy relationships. We

also take a giant step forward spiritually. Choosing to do what's right—even when it hurts—causes us to grow and mature in an amazing way.

So, who can you extend new mercies to today?

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/mercy>

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching CD series Nine Attitudes That Keep You Happy. 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 135 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and THE POWER OF THANK YOU (Faith-Words). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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9:30 a.m. Worship

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

April 28 - 8:30-11 a.m. Garage sale work
day in memorial building
May 1 - 9 a.m. Sunday School; 9:30 a.m.
Worship - in-person/Facebook live
May 2 - 6:30 p.m. Finance Team meets
May 3 - 8:30-11 a.m. Garage sale work
day in memorial building
May 4 - 5:30 p.m. Confirmation class

**ZION UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
808 Jefferson St.
.....
Pastor Jeff Brace
jbrace8459@gmail.com


Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United
Methodist Church

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

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

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



If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

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

**UNITED PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH**
Route 251 North
(815) 539-6861
.....
Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor
E-mail: mendotaupc@yahoo.com
www.mendotaupc.org

SUNDAY: Christian Education
Sunday Worship

WEDNESDAY

**VICTORY BAPTIST
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(815) 539-9081
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Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY
Sunday school
Worship

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service

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ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
Rt. 251 at Lake Mendota
P.O. Box 54

Phone (815) 539-7107 (church)
(815) 871-5702 (pastor)
.....
Larry Sheaves, Pastor

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

"Preaching the blood, book and
blessed hope."

Sunday School
Worship

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Mendota
(815) 538-6876
.....
Brian Kelly, Pastor
www.mendotabiblechurch.org


SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Sunday School
Worship
Evening Service

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CHURCH**
607 Tenth Ave.
(815) 539-5626
.....
Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor
E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org


Website:
www.stjohnsmendota.org
Schedule:
9 a.m. Sunday Worship in person
and online via Facebook and Zoom

Find us on Facebook

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



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 6: 14, 15

"Jesus Forgives the Adulteress" by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794-1872)

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
1003 5th St.
(815) 538-5603
.....
Website: fpcmendota.com
Accessible

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

May 1 - 10 a.m. Worship/Facebook Live;
11 a.m. Coffee hour
Preacher: Jeff Roman
May 3 - 2 p.m. PEO meeting

Facebook page
www.facebook.com/fpcmendota

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

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might have the supremacy." Col. 1:18

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Wayne Shuman
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Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
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Thursday 6 p.m.

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E-mail: immanuellutheran
compton@live.com

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8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel
10:30 a.m. Worship at First

April 29 - 9:30 a.m. Bible study

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



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(815) 539-7820
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Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Accessible

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METHODIST CHURCH**

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Pastor David Jungnickel
E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

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



BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Judas in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?
2. From Exodus 16, what bird served as miracle food for the Israelites? Raven, Dove, Quail, Duck
3. In Genesis 29:17, what part of Leah was tender (weak)? Foot, Hand, Mind, Eyes
4. From Jonah 1:15, how did he (Jonah) end up in the sea? Drunkenness, Fell in, Capsized ship, Cast in
5. In Matthew 17, what size faith did Jesus say was needed? Mountain, Mustard seed, Ant hill, One's heart
6. James and John were the sons of ... ? Bartholomew, Zebedee, Zadok, Barnabas

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Quail; 3) Eyes; 4) Cast in (thrown); 5) Mustard seed; 6) Zebedee

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♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

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

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public notice is hereby given that the Road Commissioner of Troy Grove Township, Troy Grove, IL will receive bids for construction of a 60' x 120' equipment shed. Bid specifications may be obtained upon request from the Township Clerk, @ (815) 539-7175. All bids are to be received by the Township Clerk on or before 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 and will be opened at that time. The Road Commissioner will make his decision at a later date and reserves the right to waive any technicalities or irregularities and to reject any and all bids or any part thereof. Further specifications and requirements are provided in the Bid Form/Bidding Documents. The winning bidder must be prepared to comply with all applicable laws and provide proof of insurance. Contractor shall not pay less than the prevailing rates of wages to all workers, and shall comply with the requirements of the Prevailing Wage Act. Mike Mathieu Dar Wujek
Troy Grove Township Road Commissioner
Troy Grove Township Clerk
Legal No. 0403 (4/13 & 4/27 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby

given that on April 19, 2022 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Thorn Creek Stable located at 2322 N. 2879th Road Marseilles, IL. 61341. Dated: April 19, 2022. Jon C. Dees Applicant. Legal No. 0405 (4/27, 5/4, 5/11 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice
Ophir Township regular monthly meeting dates for fiscal 2022-2023 will be held on the second Monday of the month, April through October at 7:00 p.m. and November through March at 6:00 p.m. All meetings will be held at the Ophir Community Building at 3907 E. 752 Road in Triumph. Bill Pakenham
Ophir Township Clerk
Legal No. 0406 (4/27 2022)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

109 CEMETERIES AND LOTS

FOR SALE - One Cemetery Plot. Trinity Memory Gardens. \$600 Call 815-562-4015. (04-24-22)

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

301 ANTIQUES

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

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307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Electric Train New Haven Powered Twin "A" Alcos Engine Units

701 HELP WANTED

Mendota Civic Center
Part - time position available. Must be available Friday's and Saturday's during peak season (May - December). Hours are based on booked events. Must be 18, outgoing and a self-starter. Responsibilities include event setup/teardown, hostess/kitchen, and yard cleanup. Must be able to lift 25 lbs. Apply in person. 1901 Tom Merwin Drive 04252022

Employment Opportunity

Information & Assistance Specialist
Immediate full-time position available
This individual should have excellent interpersonal and organizational skills. Ability to multi-task is essential. Basic computer skills are required and proficiency in Word, Excel and use of on-line databases is preferred. Position will require occasional travel and flexible hours. A background check is required. Previous experience working with aged and disabled population preferred. Submit letter of interest and resume to: Rayanne Sester, mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com Mendota Area Senior Services P.O. Box 376 Mendota, IL 61342 NO PHONE CALLS ACCEPTED Deadline is May 11, 2022

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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I thought we were in this together, but apparently I was wrong.

You've been ignoring me for a while. We don't go for walks as often as we used to. You barely eat anything green anymore. And you don't realize the daily pressure you put me under. It's just too much.

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2020 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, LTZ, 4x4, 44K miles, 1-owner, Silver...\$46,500	2018 Chevy 1500 2WD Crew Cab, LT V6, 34K miles, Blue.....\$36,900
2019 Chevy Crew Cab LT Z71 4x4, 1-Owner, 70K miles, Gray.....\$41,900	

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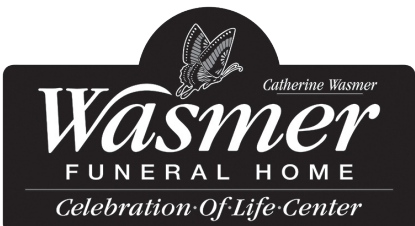
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 **The Mendota Reporter**

REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE FEATURED



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YOU HOME!**



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LOOK NO FURTHER! IF YOU'RE A FIRST TIME BUYER OR AN INVESTOR THIS IS THE PERFECT HOME FOR YOU! SITUATED ON A LARGE LOT IN A LOVELY LOCATION CLOSE TO SHOPPING AND DOWNTOWN. THIS 3 TO 4 BEDROOM HOME FEATURES LARGE KITCHEN WITH NEWER CABINETS/COUNTERTOPS, FIRST FLOOR LAUNDRY AND FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM. ENJOY YOUR SUMMER EVENINGS ON THE FRONT PORCH OR MAYBE YOU'D PREFER SITTING OUT BACK WATCHING THE SUNSET! THE 2 CAR GARAGE HAS A GAS HEATER (NOT HOOKED UP). THERE ARE EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR ENTRANCES TO BASEMENT. DON'T LET THIS ONE GET AWAY! CALL US TODAY FOR YOUR PRIVATE SHOWING!



READY FOR YOUR STARTER HOME?? ONE BLOCK FROM NORTHBROOK SCHOOL. COME CHECK OUT THIS 3 BEDROOM, 2 FULL BATH WITH A LARGE FENCED IN YARD. 1 CAR DETACHED GARAGE, CONCRETE DRIVEWAY, LARGE KITCHEN, LARGE LIVING ROOM. 2 BASEMENT AREAS, ONE WITH A FAMILY ROOM AND FULL BATHROOM RECENTLY ADDED. IT JUST NEEDS THE FINISHING TOUCHES. THE AREA DOES NOT GET WATER HOWEVER A SUMP PUMP WAS ADDED. FRESH PAINT ON THE LOWER LEVEL, NEWER CARPET IN UPPER BEDROOMS. MAIN FLOOR LAUNDRY. NEWER WATER HEATER. THE HOME HAS CENTRAL AIR BUT ALSO INCLUDES 3 WINDOW UNITS FOR EXTRA COOLNESS UPSTAIRS IN THE SUMMER AND AN ADDITIONAL ROOM AIR UNIT AS WELL. THE TRAMPOLINE AND PLAYSET CAN STAY.

**McConville
REALTY & AUCTIONEERING**



Joe McConville
Designated Managing Broker



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

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker 815-910-5673

Marty McConville, Broker 815-200-2233

Richard McConville, Broker 815-539-5673

Sharon Kimrey, Broker 815-343-3600

Melody Nanzer, Broker 815-228-2842

Ryan Coss, Broker 815-830-8636

REDUCED - OWNER RELOCATING



2517 Woods St., West Brooklyn \$110,500

Lovely Dutch Colonial 2 story home with hardwood floors on the first floor with nice woodwork. The foyer leads to a gorgeous open staircase that takes you to 3 large bedrooms. 1st floor master bedroom, Bright airy and clean home with lots of storage. Detached Big 18x30 garage.

FREE MARKET ANALYSIS

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

JOE MCCONVILLE	815-910-5673
SHARON KIMREY	815-343-3600
MARTY MCCONVILLE	815-200-2233
MELODY NANZER	815-228-2842
RYAN COSS	815-830-8636



MLS#11318247

**746 Commercial St.,
Marseilles, IL \$99,900**

Nice home, very clean and tidy. Kitchen has oak cabinets, wood laminate floors in this 2 bedroom home. Large built in oak bookcase and desk in living room. Near the I&M Canal. Call for a showing.



230 S. Mason Ave., Amboy \$109,900

Beautiful corner lot with an affordable home that's ready to move into. This home features 3 bedrooms, laundry, living room, dining room and office/den. Large back yard with garden, parking on side of home, concrete patio for entertaining and a fenced area for animals. Features a garage lovers dream, 32x50 garage/shop with radiant heat in floor-boiler heat, 3 overhead doors, and built in shelving. Seller selling 9000 lb lift separate for \$1,500. Call today for a viewing!



27858 2600 East St., Van Orin \$64,900

Ranch style home with curb appeal. Why Rent when you can own! This open living/dining area, kitchen, 2 bedroom, one bath home comes with all appliances and is ready to move into. Features an attached garage that can be converted into a family room/master bedroom. There is a car port for parking, shed in back for all your storage. Call today for a showing!



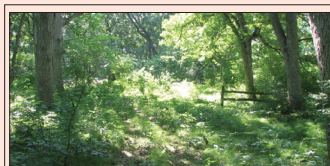
25 W. Milton St., Amboy \$28,500

Build your dream home on these 4 lots with another lot available on Commercial to add to the Milton Street lots. Garage located on one lot. * Same lot owner for the lot on Commercial 02-15-22-179-010 RE taxes \$61.24 Buy all 5. Call today for a showing! This includes for all 5 lots!



919 Missouri Drive, Dixon, Lost Nation \$17,000

A HOME BUILDERS DREAM! (917 & 919 Missouri) Double lot located in Lost Nation. This is the perfect land to build your dream home on. Lots are wooded and close to Lost Lake, Lost Nations private 80 acre stocked lake. Lost Nation is a gated community with so many opportunities, schedule an appointment to see it's true beauty! Active HOA.



812-814-816 Missouri Drive, Dixon \$19,500

Three lots for you to build your dream home on. Call for a viewing today. Lots 141, 142 & 143 are located in Lost Lake. Lost Lake is surrounded by 1,700 acre of woodlands that includes a 90 acre spring fed lake that is kept stocked with fish. It features 2 swimming beaches, boat launches, sport fishing and campground. There is a tennis court, basketball court, fitness trail, softball field and playground facilities throughout. So much to offer! 814 lot size 70x158.9x69.8x163.7 and 816 lot size 71.9x163.7x82.10x168.7 Assoc dues \$430 ea lot

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Woodhaven
Lakes
Properties!**



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