



Illinois is one of 13 states that still require masks on school children.

Parents, students, schools await ruling on mask mandate challenge

□ Judge’s decision not likely before January 28

By GREG BISHOP
The Center Square

SPRINGFIELD – Parents, students and schools across the state are waiting for a ruling from a circuit court judge on a petition to block masks from being required on children in some Illinois schools.

Illinois is one of 13 states that still require masks on school children. Gov. J.B. Pritzker has had the mandate in place since August.

A case heard in Sangamon County Circuit Court last week has more than 700 parents suing 145 school districts, the governor and state education officials over the mandates that include excluding students from in-person learning for possibly being exposed to COVID-19.

Pritzker criticized the parents’ case, saying they are fighting against “freedom from” COVID-19.

“That’s what we’re looking to do, to give people their freedom from the virus,” Pritzker said. “These people are holding us back and they’re going to close schools as a result if they were to win.”

Some schools have said their operations could be hindered without the man-

date. Other schools have had masks optional all school year with minimal disruptions. Schools that don’t mandate masks face non-recognition status from the Illinois State Board of Education, something that could mean loss of state funds and participation with recognized schools in extra-curricular activities.

Attorney Thomas DeVore, who represents the parents, argued in court the issue is about individual due process rights laid out in state law.

“These children have rights when it comes to these masks, which are a device intended to limit the spread, when it comes to exclusion from school,” DeVore said. “They all have rights and their rights need to be protected and we’re asking you to protect their rights.”

DeVore argues if public health officials want to quarantine, vaccinate or mask someone out of health concerns, and the person is not willing, they must prove in court the person is a health risk. That largely is not happening with the mask and exclusion mandates.

See Masks, Page A5

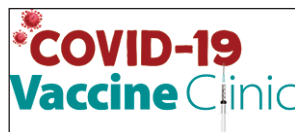
COVID-19 testing & vaccine clinic planned at Mendota High School

□ SHIELD testing to be January 28; clinic scheduled for February 4

MENDOTA – Mendota High School District 280 in partnership with the State of Illinois will hold a free COVID-19 vaccine clinic on Friday, Feb. 4 at Mendota High School.

Second-dose vaccines will be administered to those individuals who received their first dose on Jan. 14. Also, first-dose shots will be given to those who are interested, but those individuals will need to schedule a time at CVS, Wal-Mart or any other outlet providing vaccines to get their second dose. Booster shots will also be provided at the Feb. 4 clinic at MHS.

The clinic will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the auxiliary gym. Participants should enter through the front door of the high school. To schedule an appointment, log on to <https://events.juware.com/>



IL-IDPH/bb53b9b5-f84c-4d3b-9b34-533521b58abb/. Walk-ins are also welcome.

For more information on where to find vaccine clinics, go online to coronavirus.illinois.gov or call 1-833-621-1284.

For more information or questions about COVID-19, call 1-800-889-3931, email dph.sick@illinois.gov or visit the Illinois Department of Public Health website at www.dph.illinois.gov.

Expanded community COVID testing will be held again Friday, Jan. 28. Because of the need for free local testing, MHS will be the site for the saliva SHIELD COVID-19 testing. Hours will be from 9 a.m.-noon.



A COVID-19 vaccine clinic will be held Friday, Feb. 4 at Mendota High School.

Appointments can be made from 9-10:30 a.m. and anyone can walk in from 10:30 a.m.-noon. Walk-ins are welcome at any time, but please have your SHIELD account created before attending.

This is not a drive-thru test. Please park in any available spot in the front lot and

not on the road in front of the auditorium doors. Enter through auditorium doors.

Register at: shieldilportal.pointnclick.com. Agency code: df5brrj

Do not eat or drink anything for one hour prior to your test. Confidential results will be available in six to 24 hours. Testing is free.

State task force hears from law enforcement on rising crime rate

By PETER HANCOCK
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Police chiefs and sheriffs told a panel of state lawmakers last week that they need more resources and support from the public and the General Assembly to combat a rising rate of violent crime in Illinois. Some said they don’t feel they are getting that now, especially in light of recently-enacted criminal justice reforms.

“There are members in policing that believe that the community should have nothing to say about what we do in our profession,” Hazel Crest Police Chief Mitchell Davis said. “Conversely, there are members in the community that want nothing



to do with police officers of any kind. All sides are entitled to feel the way that they feel. But until we are able to work together in spite of our differences, we will never fully reach our potential in equitably addressing the concerns of public safety and violence in all communities.”

Davis spoke during a hearing of the House Public Safety and Violence Prevention Task Force, a group that House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch, D-Hillside,

“We want to do everything to make sure that the police are strong, and make sure that the police are well educated as it relates to serving the people.”

—State Rep. LaShawn K. Ford

formed in September “to develop a collaborative approach to the violence crisis.”

Welch formed the task force as Chicago and many other cities were experiencing their most violent year in decades. Chicago alone had some 800 murders during the year, the most in the past quarter century.

The panel is co-chaired by Reps. LaShawn K. Ford and Frances Ann Hurlley, both Chicago Democrats.

The increase in violent

crime has come just after the General Assembly enacted a sweeping criminal justice reform package known as the Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity-Today, or SAFE-T Act that included, among other things, the scheduled elimination of cash bail in Illinois beginning next year.

When that law takes effect Jan. 1, 2023, courts will still

See Crime, Page A5

School districts in region struggle with teacher, substitute teacher vacancies

□ 86% of region’s schools reported teacher shortages in IARSS survey

By GRACE KINNICUTT
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Schools were struggling filling teaching positions before the COVID-19 pandemic reached Illinois nearly two years ago.

The challenges of educating students during a prolonged health crisis has been an “added stress” for teachers in northwest Illinois schools, said Chris Dvorak, superintendent of the LaSalle, Marshall and Putnam County Regional Office of Education.

“I believe things have continued to get worse from the standpoint of COVID,” Dvorak said. “I think it created more of a problem than where we were before.”

The 2021 Illinois Educator Shortage survey released recently by the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools

shows that 86 percent of school districts in the northwest region reported that shortages of teachers and substitute educators continue to worsen. The region spans from Jo Daviess County to Rock Island County to LaSalle County to Winnebago County.

The study noted that the top reason reported for educator vacancies has been retirement.

Chris Tennyson, superintendent of Lee, Ogle and Whiteside County Regional Office of Education, noted that one of the big things with teachers retiring early seemed to be the added stress of dealing with COVID.

“It just made them think about maybe [retiring] quicker only because when they signed up for teaching, none of us ever imagined that we’d have two years like this,” Tennyson said. “It’s really nothing that you can prepare for.”

The most common strategy for covering vacancies is combining classes followed by outsourcing to third-party vendors and utilizing long-term substitutes. But, 96 percent of



school districts statewide reported minor to serious problems with substitute shortages.

Regional superintendents reported that COVID-19 has made finding substitutes more difficult since those who have regularly filled those positions tend to be retired teachers who now do not want to come to a school and risk getting the virus.

“We had a good workforce of retirees, people that had worked in the classroom that were willing to come back and work within the district that they retired from,” Dvorak

said. “A lot of those people pulled back and said, ‘Not knowing if it’s safe or not, I don’t want to put my health and myself at risk.’”

Not having substitute teachers to depend on, districts reported pulling instructors from class preparation time to cover for absences elsewhere. They also have been using administrators to teach, and have combined classes.

Joshua Nichols, superintendent of Amboy Community Unit School District 272, said the district there had to move Spanish classes online, combine classes and move teachers around to address staffing shortages.

“It’s very difficult because you’re trying to fill one hole and you’re trying to find the highest need,” Nichols said.

Being in a rural area, Nichols noted that staffing can be difficult, but the district has managed to do so by hustling to find people – especially those who just graduated with a teaching degree.

See Teachers, Page A5



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Index	
Local News	Pages A2,A3,A5
Obituaries	Page A4
Opinion	Page A6
Entertainment	Page A7
NIE Fun Page	Page A8
The Back Page	Page A10
Catholic Schools Week	Page B1
Sports	Pages B2,B3
Church Page	Page B5
Classifieds/Legals	Pages B6,B7



LOCAL AND AREA



Carol Alcorn, Illinois Valley PADS Executive Director, left, accepts a donation from Gail Pyszka, Illini Valley Association of REALTORS Chief Executive Officer. (Photo contributed)

IVAR donates to PADS

PERU - For the seventh year, the Illini Valley Association of REALTORS (IVAR) chose Illinois Valley PADS as their Community Outreach.

IVAR members have shown their generosity throughout the year by volunteering to serve meals at the shelter. In addition, monetary donations from the Illini Valley Association of Realtors totaling \$1,209

were presented.

The Illini Valley Association of REALTORS is one of more than 1,800 local boards and associations of REALTORS that comprise the National Association of REALTORS. As the nation's largest trade association, NAR is "The Voice for Real Estate," representing nearly 750,000 members involved in all aspects of the real estate industry.

Anhydrous Ammonia training offered

OGLESBY - University of Illinois Extension is offering the Anhydrous Ammonia Certified Grower Training and certification on Friday, Feb. 25 from 1-2 p.m. at Illinois Valley Community College rooms CTC 124/125. This training is in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Pre-registration is required; no walk-ins allowed. Properly worn face coverings are required at all times in the training location. Social distancing restrictions will be enforced. Do not attend if you have a fever greater than 100.4 F, if you or a household member tested positive for COVID-19, or if you are having COVID-19 symptoms.

There is no charge for the training. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please indicate when registering. Limited seating is available.

To register, please call the U of I Extension IVCC Office at (815) 224-0889. There is no charge to attend. Questions may be directed to Daryle Wragge, Ag Program Coordinator, at (309) 364-2356.

Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

District 289 recently kicked off our last fundraiser of the year. For the first time, we will sell Nothing Bundt Cakes through Jan. 28. Students brought home order forms for families that choose to participate. Blackstone will use the funds raised to go toward new playground equipment for all our students to enjoy. We appreciate your support.

On Jan. 18, all of our students brought home their midterm progress report for the 2nd trimester. If parents have any questions about their child's report, they should contact the child's teacher. At Blackstone, we just completed winter benchmark testing in Fastbridge and the

first grade students will bring home their benchmark reports within the next week.

Our January spirit day was "Workout Wednesday" on Jan. 19. We had great participation from students and staff. The students were able to participate in some extra workout activities on this day as well. It was a fun day!

The students nominated for the Principal Award this past week included Analysis Neilsen, Cayden Bloomfield, Valeria Gomez, Zachary McKay, Ajla Bugiye, Nayeli Carbajal, Lillian Hansen and Eastyn Pakenham. The winners were Bryson Sondgeroth, Manny Quintana, Isabel Reyes and Gwen Pecher. Congratulations to all of you.

Make Valentine treats with Father Dominic

LASALLE - The LaSalle Public Library will virtually host Father Dominic Garra-mone, OSB on Saturday, Feb. 5 at 1 p.m. for his special program celebrating Valentine's Day.

In this virtual program, prepare for Valentine's Day with Father Dominic by learning how to make flaky puff pastry from scratch in less time than it takes to go to the store, and see how to use it to make buttery, bite-sized treats including heart-shaped

cronuts, savory cheese puffs and butterscotch napoleons. Father Dominic will answer any baking questions at the end of the presentation and will provide a link to all featured recipes.

Father Dominic is a monk of Saint Bede Abbey in Peru. He was host of the PBS cooking show, "Breaking Bread with Father Dominic" from 1999 to 2001 and has written several cookbooks.

The program is free, open to all and will be presented on



Zoom.

To attend, register online at <https://bit.ly/33cud9W>. For more information, please call the LaSalle Library at (815) 223-2341.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

NIU Dean's List

DE KALB - Northern Illinois University has announced its fall 2021 dean's list. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum 3.75 in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Local students who

achieved this honor include: **Mendota** - Hannah Amblor, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Psychology - B.S., Mendota High School; Melissa Camacho, College of Education, ELED-Bilingual/ESL, Mendota High School; Ilian Hernandez, College of Health & Human Sciences, Nursing, Mendota High School; Paxton Kennedy, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Economics - B.S., Mendota High School; and Elizabeth Medina, College of Education, Early Childhood Education, Mendota High

School.

Earlville - Sandra Kofoed, College of Business, Marketing - B.S., LaMoille Community High School; and Harrison Vallaro, College of Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering Tech, Community High School 94.

NIU Fall 2021 Graduation

DEKALB - Almost 1,300 students received degrees from Northern Illinois University in fall 2021. Among the graduates were three

Mendota students, Erica Currier, Master of Science in Education, Literacy Education; Omar Guzman, Bachelor of Science, Accountancy; and Amy Kofoed, Master of Science, Data Analytics.

UW-Whitewater Dean's List

WHITEWATER, Wis. - Two local students, Mia Artman of Mendota and Holly Marsh of Earlville, were named to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Dean's List for the 2021 fall

semester. Artman is studying music and Marsh is studying art. These students received a grade point average of 3.4 or above in a single semester.

"I want to extend my congratulations to every student who set high academic standards for the fall semester and achieved a high grade point meriting recognition through the college Dean's List," said John Chenoweth, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "We are very proud of you! I encourage you to keep up the good work."

Kishwaukee College graduates

MALTA - Kishwaukee College has announced the graduates for summer and fall 2021. Local graduates include Abigail Bremner Castle of Compton, CERT, Floral Horticulture, with Distinction; Scott M. Cansino of Paw Paw, CERT, Google IT Support; Juliana M. Prendergast of Paw Paw, Associate in Science; and Janette Solis of Paw Paw,

See BRIEFS, Page A3

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LOCAL AND AREA

Obituaries

Continued from Page A4

Irene A. Larsen

MENDOTA - Irene A. Larsen, 80, of Mendota passed away Jan. 23, 2022 in her home.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 29 at Holy Cross Church, Mendota with Father Jeff Windy officiating. There will be no visitation. Burial will be private. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Irene was born Nov. 26, 1941 in Spring Valley to Cletus and Edith (Funfsinn) Koster. She married Robert Larsen on July 24, 1988 in Las Vegas.

Survivors include her husband, Robert of Mendota; two daughters, Brenda (Scott) Grobe of Mendota and JoAnn (Greg) Corcoran of Pick City, N.D.; one son, D.J. (Geina) Parks of Mendota; one brother, Robert (Mary Ann) Koster of LaSalle; three sisters, Sharon (Chapman) of Henry, Donna Cleland of Decatur and Paula (John) Kasica of Grand Rapids, Mich.; 15 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; three stepsons, Jim (Shelby) Larsen, Kevin Larsen and Bart Larsen; one step-daughter, Melody (Jim) Stremlau; seven step grandchildren; nine step great-grandchildren; one step great-great-grandson; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one step granddaughter, Dustine Miller; one step grandson, Dank Miller; and two brothers-in-law.

Irene was a 1959 graduate of Hall High School in Spring Valley. She worked at First State Bank for 37 years as a teller and head bookkeeper and became facility manager of the LaMoille branch when it first opened. She coordinated the Way 55 trips for many years, which she dearly enjoyed, before retiring in 2003. She loved cooking for her family and friends, visiting casinos, and would go out of her way to lend a helping hand. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, aunt and sister. She adored spending time with her grandchildren and attending their events. She was a member of the Mendota Moose Lodge and Mendota Elks Club, where she was in a bowling league with her husband.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Services or memorial money towards masses in her memory. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Audrey J. Prokuski

MENDOTA - Audrey J. Prokuski, 86, of Mendota passed away Jan. 20, 2022 at Heritage Health Mendota.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27 at Holy Cross Catholic Church with Rev. Jeff Windy officiating. Burial will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 27 at the Wasmer Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be grandchildren, Sarah and Craig Willmert, Selena Waido, Dr. Michael Waido, Christopher Prokuski and Katie Leeper.

Audrey was born July 26, 1935 in LaSalle to Joseph and Angela (Kum) Strukel. She married Gerald Prokuski on Sept. 25, 1954 at the former St. Roch's Church in LaSalle.

Audrey will be missed by her husband, Jerry of Mendota; one daughter, Karen (Scott) Waido of Mendota; one son, Keith (Marie) Prokuski of Streamwood; four grandchildren, Sarah (Craig) Wellmert, Selena Waido, Dr. Michael Waido and Christopher Prokuski; one step-granddaughter, Katie Leeper; and two great-granddaughters, Aubrey and Annabelle Willmert.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Joseph Strukel and Donald Strukel; two sisters, Gail Nowiak and Ann "Babe" Cassidy; and one grandson, Matthew Waido.

Audrey attended St. Roch's Grade School and St. Joseph Commercial in Peru. She assisted Jerry in forming a new floral and gift business in downtown Mendota, Jerry's Flower Barn, while starting their family. She was a devoted member of Holy Cross Church. She was active in the church choir, the Altar and Rosary Society, Holy Cross School Parent's Club, Mendota Christian Women United, Junior Women's Club, Mendota Business and Professional Women's Club where she was a past president. She was a three-time breast cancer survivor.

Memorials would be appreciated as floral tributes or contributions toward a Memorial in Audrey's name. Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.

Minnie B. Tolley

MENDOTA - Minnie Belle Tolley, 86, passed away Jan. 14, 2022 at Heritage Health Mendota.

Visitation will be from 3 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 2 at Zion United Methodist Church, Mendota with a Celebration of Life Service at 6 p.m. Rev. Jeff Brace will officiate. Cremation rites have been accorded. Wasmer Funeral Home is privileged to assist the family.

Minnie was born Feb. 2, 1935 in Cunard, W.V. to Russell and Ethel (Cox) Ingles. She married the love of her life, Herschel Tolley on Nov. 18, 1951 in Oak Hill, W.V.

She will be dearly missed by her husband, Herschel of Sublette; one son, David Tolley of LaSalle; one daughter, Kathy (Chris) Van Horn of Harvard; a daughter-in-law, Gail Tolley of Utica; five grandchildren, Jason (Corey) Foster of Tennessee, Sarah (Peter) Shanks of Belvidere, Nathan (Vicki) Tolley of Mendota, Bethany (Kurt) Kraepelin of California and Dan Turczyn of Utica; 10 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and one sister, Marlee (Robert) Hebel of Manning, S.C.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Harry Ingles and Russell Lee Ingles; a sister in infancy, Janice; and three great-grandchildren, Baby Shanks, Avery Shanks and Tyson Shanks.

During her work career, Minnie was a drafter for Black Brothers Company. She was an active member of Zion United Methodist Church. She owned TM Ceramics Shop where she poured, cleaned, painted and sold pieces, along with teaching classes. She bowled on a mixed and ladies league, loved her grandbabies, shopping, roses and enjoying her home with Herschel.

Memorials may be directed to the Alzheimer's Foundation. Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.



Briefs

Continued from Page A2

AAS, Registered Nursing.

Honors are divided into three categories based on cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale: summa cum laude between 3.75-4.0; magna cum laude between 3.5-3.749; and cum laude between 3.25-3.499. Students who earn a Certificate with a final GPA of 3.25 or higher get a Certificate with Distinction.

University of Iowa dean's list

IOWA CITY, Iowa - Two local students, Madison Mikolasek and Curt Fitzgerald, both of Mendota, were named to the University of

Iowa dean's list for the 2021 fall semester. Mikolasek is a first-year student majoring in biology and Fitzgerald, a third-year student, is majoring in computer science and engineering.

Guidelines for inclusion on the dean's list are:

- Courses offered on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) or pass/non-pass (P/N) basis do not count toward inclusion on the dean's list.
- Undergraduate students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, College of Education, College of Engineering, Tippie College of Business, and University College who achieve a grade-point average of 3.50 or higher on nine semester hours (fall 2021) or more UI graded coursework during a semester or summer session and have no semester hours of "I" (incomplete) or "O" (no grade reported) during that semester.
- Undergraduate students

in the Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine with fewer than nine semester hours (fall 2021) of graded credit, if deemed appropriate by the college.

• College of Nursing students in clinical courses who have nine semester hours of earned credit (fall 2021), with eight semester hours of graded credit and a GPA of 3.50 or higher.

Iowa State dean's list

AMES, Iowa - Iowa State University students, Sean Dullard of Mendota and Lisa Tordai of Earlville, have been recognized for outstanding achievement by being named to the university's fall semester dean's List. Dullard is a third-year student majoring in animal science and Tordai, also a third-year student, is majoring in agricultural engineering.

Students named to the dean's list must earn a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying

a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Marquette dean's list

MILWAUKEE, Wis. - Local student Brooke Carroll of Mendota has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2021 semester at Marquette University in Milwaukee. Carroll is pursuing a Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies.

To make the dean's list, students must earn at least 12 credits for the semester and have no disqualifying grades. The GPA threshold varies - for the College of Education and Klingler College of Arts and Sciences, undergraduate students must have at least a 3.7 to be included. Undergraduate requirement is 3.5 for the Diederich College of Communication, the College of Business Administration, the College of Health Sciences, the Opus College of Engineering and the College of Nursing. All other programs have a 3.75 GPA minimum.

CARL'S QUIZ

Which Winter Olympic Games were the first to be broadcast in color?

The answer to last week's quiz is: Ice hockey and figure skating were originally part of the Summer Olympics. The 1908 London Olympics hosting four figure skating events and Antwerp 1920 had figure skating and ice hockey. In 1924, a separate event, the International Winter Sports Week held in Chamonix, France, was created for winter sports. Two years later, that event was officially recognized as the first Winter Olympic Games.

Answer next week in The Mendota Reporter and online at www.mendotareporter.com

Mendota Weather

Jan. 26, 2022

Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday
Sunny
High: 13 Low: 6

Thursday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 31 Low: 5

Friday
Partly Cloudy
High: 16 Low: 3

Saturday
Partly Cloudy
High: 23 Low: 14

Sunday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 30 Low: 22

Monday
Cloudy
High: 26 Low: 16

Tuesday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 30 Low: 22



Local UV Index

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

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

Weather Trivia

What was the first year that a tornado was accurately predicted?
Answer: In 1948, Major Fawcett correctly predicted that atmospheric conditions were ripe for a tornado in Norman, Okla.

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Regional Cities

City	Wednesday		Thursday	
	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx
Aurora	11/4	s	14/6	mc
Champaign	18/12	s	21/15	mc
Chicago	12/6	s	15/10	mc
Freeport	7/2	s	10/0	mc
Joliet	12/4	s	17/8	mc
Moline	14/9	s	17/3	mc
Peoria	18/14	s	21/11	mc
Rockford	11/2	s	15/1	cl
Springfield	21/14	s	24/14	mc

Last Week's Local Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip	Rainfall
Monday	30	19	27/11	0.00"	0.00"
Tuesday	45	23	27/11	0.00"	0.33"
Wednesday	22	9	27/11	0.00"	-0.33"
Thursday	16	5	27/11	0.00"	
Friday	24	2	27/11	0.00"	
Saturday	32	21	27/11	0.00"	
Sunday	19	13	27/11	0.00"	

Data as reported from Peru, Ill.

Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	7:13 a.m.	5:04 p.m.	1:26 a.m.	11:44 a.m.
Thursday	7:12 a.m.	5:06 p.m.	2:41 a.m.	12:21 p.m.
Friday	7:11 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	3:58 a.m.	1:07 p.m.
Saturday	7:10 a.m.	5:08 p.m.	5:11 a.m.	2:05 p.m.
Sunday	7:10 a.m.	5:09 p.m.	6:16 a.m.	3:13 p.m.
Monday	7:09 a.m.	5:11 p.m.	7:09 a.m.	4:29 p.m.
Tuesday	7:08 a.m.	5:12 p.m.	7:52 a.m.	5:47 p.m.

National Weather Summary This Week

The Northeast will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 36 in Selbyville, Del. The Southeast will experience partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 76 in Davie, Fla. The central United States will see partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 65 in Brownsville, Texas. In the Northwest there will be partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 56 in Medford, Ore. The Southwest will see mostly clear skies with the highest temperature of 74 in Salton City, Calif.

Weather History

Jan. 26, 1983 - The California coast was battered by a storm that produced record high tides, 32-foot waves and mudslides causing millions of dollars in damage. The storm then moved east and dumped four feet of snow on Lake Tahoe.

Jan. 27, 1772 - On this date the "Washington and Jefferson Snowstorm" occurred. George Washington reported three feet of snow at Mount Vernon and Thomas Jefferson recorded about three feet at Monticello.

OSF Saint Paul Medical Center honored for excellence in quality care

MENDOTA - The Illinois Critical Care Access Hospital Network (ICAHN) recently recognized OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota for its ongoing commitment to exceptional quality of care, during a ceremony as part of ICAHN's annual conference.

As part of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program (MBQIP), OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center and other critical access hospitals were asked to voluntarily participate in four defined domains of quality outcomes. These four domains include: Patient Safety/Inpatient; Patient Engagement; Care Transitions; and Outpatient Measures.

"Often, in rural hospitals, having a devoted staff member to abstract and submit this data can be both time-consuming and burdensome," said Laura Fischer, ICAHN Flex Grant Project Manager. "This hospital realizes how important quality of care and an engaged staff is for its patients... From its top leadership on throughout the facility, each strives for continued quality on a daily basis, and that is what we are celebrating today."

OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center was recognized for being in the top 10 percent of all critical access hospitals in the country for exceptional care transitions for all emergency department transfer patients.

"We are very proud of our team for achieving this level of excellence in health quality," said Dawn Trompeter, President, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. "This is truly a team effort that recognizes our dedication to delivering a healthcare experience of which our patients and staff can be proud."

The Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program began in 2011 as a way for critical access hospitals to demonstrate the quality of care that they provide. This program has continued to evolve, adding new measures and removing outdated ones. In 2016, the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy deemed it necessary for CAHs to participate in at least one measure of one domain to receive Flex funding opportunities. Each year, FORHP has increased the level at which the hospital must participate to remain Flex fund eligible.

ICAHN, located in Princeton, is a network of 57 small, rural Illinois hospitals dedicated to strengthening the operations of its member hospitals through collaboration. The organization is composed of Illinois hospitals who have earned critical access hospital designation by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. ICAHN is recognized nationally for its work with rural healthcare and administers several state, federal and private healthcare programs.

LaSalle Co. Republicans host training session

OTTAWA - The LaSalle County Republicans hosted the state's first ILGOP and ILGOP County Chairman's Association 2022 training season at Pittsick Pavilion in Ottawa on Jan. 8. More than 75 attendees from eight counties were present as ILGOP Vice-Chairman Mark Shaw delivered the most comprehensive precinct committeeman (PC)

and candidate training in the history of the ILGOP.

The afternoon was dedicated to candidate training and included everything from campaign strategy and messaging to political support, fundraising and media training. Hundreds of man years of political and practical experience were packed into the session, much of which was identified

in the manual provided to attendees. This class benefits those seeking to be precinct committeemen, elected officials or anyone who has been engaged in politics for some time.

Anyone with an interest in knowing more, please contact Larry Smith, Chairman of the La Salle County Republicans at Northville6Repub@aol.com.

OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

Robert A. Wilhelm

MENDOTA - Robert August Wilhelm, 93, of Mendota passed away peacefully on Jan. 18, 2022 at Heritage Health, Mendota surrounded by family.

Private family-only services will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church with Rev. Ken Gibson officiating. Burial will be at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota assisted the family.

Robert was born Jan. 12, 1929 in Mendota to Alice H. (Stamberger) and George F. Wilhelm. He married Jeanne E.K. Reid on July 1, 1951 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota. She preceded him in death on Jan. 14, 2005.

Survivors include four children, Peggie Reddick and Roberta Wendel of Mendota, Cyndie (Charles) Phillippe of Kissimmee, Fla. and Stephen Wilhelm of Austin, Texas; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one sister, Joyce (Loren) Shaw of Markesan, Wis.

He was preceded in death by his wife; a twin sister at birth; and a sister and brother-in-law, Dorothy and Warren Carlson.

Robert was confirmed at St. John's Lutheran, Mendota on April 18, 1943 and graduated from Mendota High School in 1947. He worked with his father on the family farm growing crops, raising livestock and fowl, milking cows and keeping the apple orchard. In order to supplement his income, he worked at the Star Gas Station from 1955 until 1960. He then worked at Wayside Press until his retirement at the age of 65. He maintained a very large garden on the family homestead until his mid 80s, for which he received a garden-of-the-month award. He volunteered at Pads and Green Wing Bible Camp. He enjoyed bike riding to-and-from work as well as all over the countryside collecting cans, doing his part for the environment. The library was his favorite destination. Nothing was more important to him than his family and church, often wondering how he ever had enough time to work with all the things he did during his retirement. He enjoyed reading history, biographies and what was new in science, as well as working Sudoku and picture puzzles. He was enthusiastic about Mendota High School sports, college football, especially the Big Ten and his favorite team Notre Dame. He also followed professional sports, especially the Chicago Bears and Cubs. He loved going to the high school band concerts and plays. He encouraged his family to learn about other cultures and localities, never missing a single travelogue when the Rotary Club hosted them at the high school.

Memorials may be sent to Mendota St. John's Lutheran Church Scholarship Fund, Graves-Hume Public Library, or the Salvation Army. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Robert L. Teauseau

LAKELAND, Fla. - Robert L. "Bob" Teauseau, 82, formerly of Spring Valley, passed away Jan. 4, 2022 at his home in Lakeland, Fla.

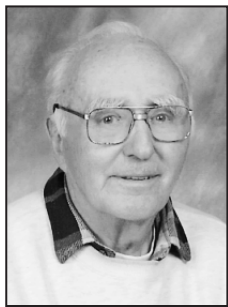
Cremation will be accorded. The family will celebrate Bob's life at a later date.

Bob was born June 21, 1939 in Mendota to Milton (Clara) Teauseau.

Survivors include his brother, Charles (Myrna) Teauseau of Winter Haven, Fla.; one son, Mark (Mayflor) Teauseau of Hennepin; one daughter, Tammy (Bradley) Scott of Hastings, Minn.; one grandson, Nate (Rendi) Teauseau of Spring Valley; two great-grandsons, Tucker and Braxton; and his long time loving partner, Holly Davis.

Bob "Touhy" owned/operated Bob's Body Shop in Spring Valley in his earlier days. He had a love of racing and enjoyed working on his stock cars and midgets. Later in life, he moved to Lakeland, Fla. to enjoy his golden years. There he became quite the handyman in his community and enjoyed playing billiards with his friends.

He will be sorely missed by everyone who knew and loved him.



Holly Brantner

MENDOTA - Holly Lynnette Faith Brantner, 69, of Mendota passed away Jan. 20, 2022 at Heritage Health, Mendota.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota with Rev. Ken Gibson officiating. Masks are required. Burial will be at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation will be for one hour prior to services at the church. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Holly was born Jan. 1, 1953 in Freeport to Wayne and Gladys (Truckenbrod) Brantner.

Survivors include two sisters, Bonnie Portwood and Becky Brantner; two nieces, Stephanie Portwood and Greta Christianson; one nephew, Brett Christianson; many cousins; and was also beloved by Kelly (Brent) Honegger, Kim (Jesse) Cusac and Scott (Barb) Mies and their families.

Holly graduated from Mendota High School in 1971, attended Luther College, and went on to receive an LPN degree from Mennonite Hospital in Bloomington. She continued her nursing career at Broomen Hospital and worked on medical/surgery floors and in hospice. Struggling with lifelong health issues herself led her to be an extremely kind, caring and compassionate nurse. She was an accomplished pianist and talented at playing piano by ear at 3 years old. She served as a worship pianist while living in Fairbury and often played solos at St. John's Lutheran Church in Mendota. While at Heritage Health Care Center, she played for weekly worship services and gave several recitals for the other residents. She was very creative and enjoyed writing, poetry, painting, reading, sending cards and sewing gifts for friends and family. She had a strong commitment to God and enjoyed exploring the Bible with her Bible study group at St. John's. Her deep faith carried her through even the darkest days.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Services or the Graves-Hume Public Library.

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

Anna E. Prendergast

SUBLETTE - Anna Elizabeth "Betty" Prendergast, 99, of Sublette died Jan. 18, 2022 at Franklin Grove Living and Rehab.

A family Mass of Christian Burial was held on Jan. 21 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Sublette. Burial was at St. Mary Cemetery in Sublette. A public memorial Mass and celebration of life will be held later in the year. Arrangements were handled by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Betty was born March 31, 1922 in Troy Grove Township, LaSalle County to Theodore and Elizabeth (Roetzel) Sondgeroth. She married Arthur Prendergast on June 19, 1940 in Sublette. He preceded her in death on March 23, 1986.

Survivors include her children, Judy (David Setchell) Marschang of Sublette, Sheila (Michael) Brady of Amboy, Tom (Julie Deutsch) Prendergast of Dixon and Steve (Cheryl) Prendergast of Dixon; 11 grandchildren, Mike (Lynn) Wagner, Debi (Chad) Bromenschenkel, Doug (Sarah) Marschang, Brenda (Pete) Prevenas, Nathan Berk, Andrea Berk, Timothy (Carolina Vidal) Prendergast, Bridget (Clint Reed) Prendergast, Alicia (Tyler) Price, Jason Prendergast and Sarah (Alex) Hoffmann; 17 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and one sister, Evelyn Kritz of Pewaukee, Wis.

She was preceded in death by her husband; one daughter, Janet Wagner; a grandson, Jeff Marschang; and -five sisters, Hattie Rapp, Cora Jones, Helen Leiser, Florence Sondgeroth and Dolores Setchell.

Betty was a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Sublette, the St. Anne Sodality, the Idle White Card Club for over 60 years and had been a 4H leader. She was a seamstress and loved to bake. She also loved hosting her family for holidays.

A memorial has been established to the Sublette Fire Department. Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

See additional OBITUARIES, Page A3



Juanita M. Castiglia

MENDOTA - Juanita M. Castiglia, 74, of Mendota passed away peacefully Jan. 21, 2022 at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota surrounded by family.

Juanita requested a memorial service to be held in her honor as opposed to a traditional funeral service. We request all love ones to join us to remember and celebrate her at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota on Monday, Jan. 31 at 11 a.m. with Judy Truckenbrod officiating.

Juanita was born on May 29, 1947 in Princeton to William and Dorothy (Wright) Bickett. She married Kevin Sondgeroth of West Brooklyn in 1967 and enjoyed many good years with him until he passed away in 1984. She was fortunate to find love again and marry Michael Castiglia in 1990. They would have celebrated 32 wonderful years together at the end of this month.

Survivors include her husband, Mike; one daughter, Stephanie (Sondgeroth) teDuits; one stepson, Tim Castiglia; a sister, Rita (Bickett) Findley; three brothers, David Bickett, Bill Bickett and Tony Bickett; one daughter in-law, Maria Sondgeroth; 12 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, Kevin Sondgeroth; her son, Eric Sondgeroth; two sisters, Kathy Fell and Maryann Bickett; and two stepchildren, Amy (Castiglia) McCormick and Doug Castiglia.

Juanita graduated from Mendota High School in 1966 and then went to cosmetology school in Sterling. She was a hairdresser for many years, first in Compton and then Mendota. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, wife, sister and friend. She loved hosting gatherings with family and friends, cooking delicious food and talking and laughing. She was very artistic and made beautiful, unique jewelry, painted wonderful pieces of art and was a very skilled seamstress. She loved being in Florida at the beach and collecting shells and was very fortunate to be able to spend a lot of time there over the last 20 years.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Cops4Cancer or to the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Christina (Edgcomb) McClure

MENIFEE, Calif. - Christina (Edgcomb) McClure, 42, passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 13, 2021 at her home in Menifee, Calif.

A Celebration of Life was held on Jan. 9 at Sun Meadows Club House in Menifee. A private burial will be held at Restland Cemetery in Mendota where she will be laid to rest near her mother and baby sister. Rev. Ken Gibson will officiate. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Christina was born Aug. 8, 1979 at Grossmont Hospital in La Mesa, Calif. to Douglas and Sheila (Gordon) Edgcomb.

Survivors include three children, Teigan Douglas, Tristan Riley and Taylan Marie; her father; her grandmother, Nana Jo Ellen Acampora; maternal sisters, Nicole Edgcomb, Charnelle (Andrew) Fara and Bethany (Aaron) Lijewski; and paternal siblings, Ron Dees, Megan Edgcomb, Sarah Edgcomb and Royce Edgcomb.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Sheila Duttlinger in 2020; one sister, Rachel Abrams; four aunts, two uncles and one cousin.

Christina attended school in Mendota. After graduating she returned to California where she resided.

Margaret E.S. Lewis

MENDOTA - Margaret E.S. Lewis, 89, of Mendota, passed away Jan. 20, 2022 in her home.

Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota (www.merrittfh.com) is assisting the family.



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The Mendota Reporter

Publication No. (USPS 339-100)
Vol. 144, No. 4

A Charter Member of
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Member Northern Illinois
Newspaper Association
and Illinois Press
Association

The Mendota Reporter (339-100) is published weekly at 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342. Subscription rates are \$56 per year in advance in LaSalle, Lee and Bureau counties and \$76 per year in advance in the United States outside those three counties.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Masks

Continued from Page A1

Sangamon County Circuit Court Judge Raylene Grischo said not to expect a ruling before Friday, Jan. 28.

Attorney Kathleen Gibbons represents one of the districts and said the potential harm of possibly spreading COVID-19 by not requiring everyone to wear a mask is too great.

"These decisions do not affect just these individual students and their parents, they affect all the rest of the children in Valley View, all the teachers, all the staff and all the parents and other family members in those homes," Gibbons said.

But parents' attorney Will Gerber said you can't take a student's rights away based on hypotheticals.

"[The mandate] is allowing schools to take healthy children out of school, remove them from public education, without the right to be heard," Gerber said.

Separate petitions found at Change.org have thousands of signatures for and against mask mandates in Illinois schools.

Teachers

Continued from Page A1

Fifty-two percent of districts statewide said the location of their schools negatively impacts the ability to recruit new teachers, the number one reason noted in the survey.

Over the past five years, superintendents continue to report fewer qualified applicants for teaching positions.

Dvorak noted that when he was a school principal, numerous applications would file in, but when he talks to schools around the district, they are happy if they get one or two qualified candidates.

"The question is going to be when we get out of (COVID) is how can we think and work to create some allowances where districts have the ability to put qualified people that are good with students in these positions when emergencies occur," Dvorak said.

In the study, the IARSS recommends an effective strategy to address shortages is through local solutions such as connecting middle and high schools to early education pathway networks,

partnering with community colleges and offering educator preparation programs that would provide them with a student teacher experience.

Anji Garza, director of professional learning and education services for Lee, Ogle and Whiteside County Regional Office of Education, has focused on expanding the college and career education pathway program with the help of grants received from the state board of education.

School districts can work with local businesses and colleges to provide students with a hands-on learning experience, along with offering incentives and tuition scholarships for students with a college and career pathway endorsement.

"We started having conversations about how we could address some of the pipeline issues and really grow our communities," Garza said.

Through the CCPE program, Garza said that high school juniors and seniors have been able to receive a student teaching experience. The district has partnered

with Northern Illinois University and Western Illinois University, along with Sauk Valley Community College, in offering dual credit classes.

Partnering with Illinois State University and local community colleges in his region, Dvorak said, provides some remote classes so students don't have to drive. Dvorak noted districts also do a lot of advertising and are constantly looking at potential candidates and trying to hire them if they are interested.

"So many educators that I talked to can give me one or two teachers in their life that got them thinking about education or made a difference in their life or ignited that passion," Tennyson said. "And that's what we need to remember – that we're the best sales people for our profession."

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

Crime

Continued from Page A1

be able to detain people they believe pose a risk to public safety, but those who are not detained will be released on conditions other than posting bond.

Ford was the chief House sponsor of that bill, which passed during a lame duck session in January 2021. It was an initiative of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus and it came about, in part, in response to a large number of police shootings of unarmed Black people, including the 2020 killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, and the disproportionately large number of Blacks and Hispanics being held in jail awaiting trial because they could not afford the price of bail.

But it has come to be seen in some circles as part of a larger anti-law enforcement movement, and Republicans in the General Assembly have called for its repeal.

Lemont Police Chief Marc Maton said public criticism of policing in general has led to officers being less willing to take aggressive actions to stop crime.

"Our cops aren't laying down," he said. "They see the media, proposed legislation and community commentary, and they think that this is the role that's expected of them, and that the community wants a less aggressive approach to policing and is asking for this model of policing."

Springfield Police Chief Kenny Winslow said his department has been losing officers who get trained in Illinois but later move to work in other states that they perceive to be more supportive of law enforcement.

"I've lost three officers to the state of Indiana in the last year, who are going to a state that they think is more supportive," he said. "I recently had an officer who's talking about ... accepting a job in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the same reason, because they believe that the state is more police

friendly, more supportive of law enforcement."

Meanwhile, Kankakee County Sheriff Mike Downey said he believes the elimination of cash bail next year will only worsen the problem of violent crime.

"Cashless bail has already proven in other states to not work and has increased violent crimes in those states to record numbers and made those states more violent and less safe, which is what we're trying to avoid," he said. "Cashless bail will also increase interaction with police, something that I think the community wants to avoid."

But Rep. Lindsey LaPointe, D-Chicago, said she believes people have misinterpreted what the elimination of cash bail is really about.

"We are removing money as the factor of if we're going to detain somebody or not," she said. "And with our current system – and this happens, unfortunately – people can buy their way out of jail pretrial, because somebody is making a decision that, you know, it'll cost them whatever \$30,000 to get out."

Ford tried to dispel the idea that the SAFE-T Act was meant to be an anti-law enforcement measure or that he, personally, was anti-law enforcement.

"Let me just say that I want to thank law enforcement for the things that you do every day to make our streets safer and to work with the communities," he said. "I know that it is law enforcement that runs into the line of fire. If I'm in trouble, I'm calling the police. And we want to do everything to make sure that the police are strong, and make sure that the police are well educated as it relates to serving the people."

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Welding scholarship

Enbridge recently made another \$5,000 donation to its welding scholarship at Illinois Valley Community College. Left to right, are IVCC Dean of Workforce Development Shane Lange; welding student workers Sebastian Koss and Thomas Laible; welding instructors Theresa Molln and Tony Sondgeroth; Enbridge Operations Manager Dave Bareham; IVCC President Jerry Corcoran; State Rep. Lance Yednock and Enbridge Government Relations representative Mike Murphy. Up to five \$1,000 awards are awarded annually to students considering work in the oil and gasoline pipeline industry. "These scholarships are another example of Enbridge giving back to the communities where its assets are located," said Corcoran. "Welding is one of our top programs in terms of industry-experienced faculty, enrollment, job placement and facilities. Partners like Enbridge make it even stronger." (Photo contributed)

IVCC News Briefs

Private pilot ground training set

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Continuing Education Office offers a 12-week "Private Pilot Ground Training" course on Saturdays starting Feb. 5.

The 1 to 3:30 p.m. main campus class (ID: 11) prepares students for the Private Pilot Knowledge Exam and provides knowledge of flight controls and instruments, airport and airspace considerations, aircraft weight and balance, aircraft performance tables, basic weather meteorology, federal aviation regulations, flight psychology and emergency preparedness.

Students will tour Illinois Valley Regional Airport and experience a flight simulator.

Upon completion, students will be eligible to take the F.A.A. Private Pilot Knowledge Exam (there is an additional fee for the test).

Textbooks include Federal Aviation Regulations Aeronautical Information Manual, Private Pilot 2022 Test Prep and the Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge. The texts are included in cost of the class.

Flying or airtime is not included. Students age 15 and up may enroll. For information, visit www.ivcc/enroll or call (815) 224-0547. No class March 12.

Documentary showing planned Feb. 2

OGLESBY – Local Farm Bureaus are partnering with the Illinois Valley Community College Ag Club to host a free showing of Discovery's "Rancher, Farmer, Fisherman" in early February.

The public is invited to the 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 2 event in the Dr. Mary Margaret Weeg Cultural Centre. The documentary will be followed by a brief panel of experts discussing conservation efforts and environmental focus on local agricultural lands.

The film shines a light on preserving landscapes and offers inspiring solutions to the challenges confronting America's wild land and wildlife, fisheries and croplands.

For information or to register, call the Bureau County Farm Bureau at (815) 875-6468.



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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.

The power of letters

By Scott Reeder

I mail letters to get results.
 This month, I noticed a leak under my kitchen counter and called a plumber. He told me how much it would cost and asked for payment in advance. Over the next week, plumbers visited our house multiple times but the project was never quite done.

My wife and I were sick of the continual visits without resolution. So, I went to the hardware store, bought some parts and finished the project myself.

I then sent a letter to the CEO of the Collinsville-based plumbing contractor relating our experience and asking to be reimbursed for the cost of the \$23 in parts I purchased. He did me one better and mailed a \$400 check compensating me for the inconvenience of the multiple visits and my own labor.

My dad taught me about the power of letters many years ago. When he was a young farmer in the 1960s, railroad workers would clean out boxcars near our field. Swarms of rats would leave the trains and devour rows of our crops.

Dad went to the Galesburg Public Library and looked up the name and address of the CEO for the Burlington Northern railroad. He typed a letter explaining the problem and asked for it to stop.

The crews quit cleaning out the railcars at that spot and the rats disappeared. Sometimes you just need to ask.

In July, I took my family on a trip. We arrived at the airport early but the person at the ticket counter was new and couldn't quite figure out how to check our luggage. We stood at the counter for more than an hour and eventually missed our flight. We also were charged for 15 or 20 bags when we only had five.

We ended up driving from Springfield to O'Hare International Airport to catch an alternate flight. I wrote a letter to the CEO of United Airlines explaining the situation and was reimbursed \$3,000 for our trouble.

In 2020, our two Labrador retrievers became violently ill after eating dog food. They were vomiting blood. My wife, a veterinarian, thought they could die. They ended up spending two nights in an intensive care unit. We believe a toxin caused by mold was in the bag of dog food.

So, I sent a letter along with the vet bills to the CEO of a giant pet food company. They responded with a check for \$3,000.

These experiences happened in a little over a year and they illustrate the power of letter writing.

Here are my rules on how to write a letter that gets results:

- Aim high. Write the letter to someone with the power to solve your problem – and that usually isn't anyone in customer service. I start with the CEO or owner of the company and let them delegate.
- Always write a letter – not an email, text message or social media post. Send an honest to goodness epistle in an envelope adorned with a stamp. When it comes through the U.S. Mail, it is taken more seriously and is less likely to be ignored.
- Stick to the facts and present them in a reasonable, non-emotional manner.
- Never threaten legal action. If you do, the letter will be shuffled off to the legal department where the jackals will use it to line their litter box.
- Bolster your case with supporting evidence and attach corroborating documents such as receipts and medical records.
- Make sure the letter is typed and the grammar and spelling are excellent.

I'd also suggest that one not only write letters to help themselves but to help others. Back in 2019, I upgraded my hearing aids to ones that are compatible with my cell phone. I offered the old ones to anyone in need and ended up giving them to a woman suffering a 50% hearing loss who cleans houses for a living and cares for her elderly mother.

Unfortunately, the store where I bought them wanted to charge \$650 to reprogram them for her to use.

So, I sent a note to Bentonville, Ark., to one John Furner, the CEO of Sam's Club. I explained my predicament and my desire to help someone. The next morning, I received a call from his assistant informing me they would waive the \$650 fee and would provide a gift card to cover the cost of six months' worth of batteries for the woman in need.

A well-placed, persuasive letter can benefit many people.

Also, I write letters to CEOs not just to complain but to praise when things go well. Last summer, a nurse at my doctor's office really went out of her way to help my family through a predicament. I thanked her and sent a letter to Ed Curtis, CEO of Memorial Health System.

He contacted her and praised her for her conscientious effort. For that nurse, I'm sure that letter from the boss, carried more weight than anything I would have written.

Letters get results.

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



Basketball in the Elks auditorium – 1923

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Jan. 28, 1998.)

By Jessica Nashold

The Elks club house on Indiana Avenue was dedicated Feb. 22, 1922, and a year later had bowling alleys in the basement while the auditorium was in demand for community gatherings, home talent shows and dances.

In January 1923, the auditorium was also being used as a basketball team hosted games with Elks or town teams from nearby communities. Unfortunately, the Mendota teams were so well known that news accounts of the games neglected to mention the first names of players. On Jan. 23, 1923, the headline was –

Mendota Elks Five Trounces Kewanee

The score in that encounter was 56-25, although the Kewanee captain scored 23 of their 25 points. The Mendota players were Blotch, captain and center, Spenader and Madden, forwards, Beitsch and Fassett, guards.

Two other teams were organized locally to play preliminary games. The Bull Dogs were L. Guilfoyle, Gorman, Rodiger, Holland, Coss and Klinefelter. The Wild Cats were George Boisdorf, Tower, Elsesser, Widmer, Cannon and Biers. These preliminary games attracted many fans. Admission was 35 cents.

On Jan. 30, 1923, the Elks team beat Plano, 44-38.

The Mendota team never failed to be on their toes to make a point.

In the preliminary games, the Bull Dogs won over the Wild Cats, 16-9.

Almost everyone showed that had been former players of ability.

The Bull Dogs were challenged to meet another local group, the Freight Handlers. The challengers were Momeny, Ashley, Cherry, Gilman, Herbert, Worsley and Oscar Dancyey. In a game with Tiskilwa, the Mendota Elks triumphed, 25-20.

The game was very fast, taking into consideration the slippery floor.

Since the auditorium was also used for dances, slippery floors were often a problem.

SIDETRACK – Can any Mendota sports history buff supply the first names of players in these games at the Elks?

Backtracks & Sidetracks

One Sunday morning in January 1923, chimes rang out on Washington Street in downtown Mendota. It seems that Claude Radley, manager of Northern Illinois Telephone Co., had attached “a loud-sounding apparatus” to his radio in the basement of the telephone office.

A window was open from which the sound came.

Radley had tuned in a sacred chimes concert being broadcast from Davenport.

He planned to place the “sounding apparatus” in the belfry of the Presbyterian church the following Sunday.

The People's Store on the south side of Washington Street, one door west of Main, changed hands on Jan. 20, 1923. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Burlingame of Clinton, Iowa, took over from George B. Edwards and his son, Burton. The People's Store carried a wide range of houseware, novelty and dry goods. The Burlingames later sold the business to the Westermans.

The American Legion presented a “high class minstrel show” with a Turkish theme in the Elks auditorium on Jan. 29, 1923. A highlight was a command from Sultan Wm. Faber Jr. to his slave, “Flip” Yost to bring forth his future wife. “Flip” led a young lady on stage, veiled and in oriental dress, who danced for the sultan, earning considerable applause.

The young lady was Martha Jacob.

On this occasion, “Flip” was wearing black tights with a short red jumper, trimmed in white. His face was blacked and rings adorned his nose, arms and ankles. His sandals curved up at the toes and he carried a battle axe.

Men from Clarion and LaMoille traveled to Springfield in Richard Crossman's seven-passenger car. After meeting with the representative from their district, a conference with Gov. Len Small was arranged to discuss the condition of the road between the county line and LaMoille.

The governor promised to consider the wishes of the men who had come to pay him a special visit.

Making the trip with Crossman were W.A. Samuelson, Arthur J. Wendel, Neil Crossman and George Stamberger Jr.

A former pastor of the LaMoille Methodist Church received headline treatment in the Chicago Tribune when, after accepting a position on the law enforcement commission in Chicago, he was discharged by Mayor Thompson.

He was finding out too much about the way things were being conducted in Chicago and the awfulness of conditions which exist.

The Tribune covered the Rev. Williamson's testimony.

Judge B. Harry Reck addressed members of the Ottawa Woman's Club hoping to correct the mistaken idea that children in the Detention Home in Ottawa were delinquents. He said children in the detention home were dependents, because of economic circumstances, not delinquents. Delinquents were sent to an institution elsewhere.

Stockholders of the Mendota Agricultural Fair met at the Strand Theatre Jan. 19, 1923, and heard Charles Yale, MTHS ag instructor, commend them for their attention to quality exhibits.

Yale's view –

This section is noted for its better class of stock and better class of farmers.

Plans were made for a Farmers' Institute to be held at the high school. Farmers could bring soil samples to be tested for acidity and also received instruction in rope splicing, especially hay ropes.

Dan Beetz shipped four carloads of “fat Western lambs” to Chicago on Jan. 19, 1923. He topped the market at 15 cents per pound.

In the Jan. 23, 1923, issue of The Reporter, mention was made that a man had been seen cutting grass the previous week.

It was the earliest date we have ever heard of anyone using the lawn mower.

Virginia governor is right on masks

By Rich Lowry

Glenn Youngkin promised to be on the side of parents as Virginia governor, and on his first day in office, he delivered.

The Republican issued an executive order allowing parents to decide whether their kids will wear masks in school, and met an instant wall of resistance from Democratic-controlled counties and criticism from the White House press secretary Jen Psaki. A Washington Post headline said that Youngkin is “terrifying” people.

The flak notwithstanding, his order is a sign of a growing backlash against COVID-19 restrictions that will likely only gain force as the pandemic drags on and former articles of faith, including on masking, get called into increasing doubt.

Youngkin has ventured into a legally murky area. Critics believe he doesn't have the authority to issue his order because Virginia passed a statute in early 2021 that says schools should “to the maximum extent practicable” adhere to CDC-blessed strategies for controlling spread. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is still recommending masks. The statue is vague, though, and doesn't mention masks. Youngkin's predecessor, Democrat Ralph Northam, felt compelled to issue an executive order specifically mandating them in K-12 schools.

There's also the question of whether decisions on masking and other mitigation measures are best left to school districts. Here, it is worth noting that Youngkin's order is different from that of his fellow Republican governors in Texas and Florida, who prohibited school districts from adopting mask mandates. Instead, Youngkin is establishing a carveout for parents from mandates, should they choose to take advantage of it.

All that said, it is clearly time for mask mandates to end. The conventional wisdom on masks has gone from “don't wear them they are useless” at the beginning of the pandemic, to “you are a terrible person if you don't wear them” for about a year and a half, to now, “cloth masks don't really protect anyone.”

Despite Jen Psaki saying that Arlington County, which is vowing to defy Youngkin, is standing up for kids and their safety, the case for masking kids in schools is weak or

nonexistent.

We are an outlier on this question. The CDC recommends masking all kids age 2 and older, whereas other health authorities are considerably more nuanced.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control doesn't recommend masking for schoolchildren younger than age 12, noting -- correctly -- that they “may have a lower tolerance to wearing masks for extended periods of time, and may fail to wear them properly.” In areas with community spread, it recommends masks for students in secondary schools, although it stipulates that they should “be seen as a complimentary measure, rather than a standalone measure to prevent transmission within schools.”

The World Health Organization makes distinctions based on age. It says that kids age 5 and younger shouldn't be required to wear masks based on the “overall interest of the child and the capacity to appropriately use a mask with minimal assistance.” It is open to the masking of 6- to 11-year-olds, so long as a wide variety of conditions are met. And it says that kids age 12 and over should mask like adults.

Many European countries have avoided sweeping American-style mask mandates on school kids, and for good reason. A large-scale CDC study found no benefits from the masking of kids. Many students wear cloth masks that don't provide much protection (even if worn and maintained properly) and no sane person should want to subject a child to an N95 all day long.

Parents in Virginia who believe that masking is important can still act accordingly, and vaccines and boosters are available to provide another layer of protection. But masks remain something more than a public-health measure for many proponents -- they are a signal of virtue and a pillar of pandemic orthodoxy.

Youngkin's offense, at bottom, is dissenting from this worldview, and providing options for parents who don't share it, either.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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LaSalle County Board

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 Joanne McNally, 905 Meadowview, Mendota 538-7591

ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: I'm enjoying the new sitcom "American Auto," but it's bugging me where I've seen the actress who plays the CEO before. She looks a lot like the actress who played Agatha in "WandaVision," but I'm not convinced it's her. -- **L.I.**



Gasteyer

A: Ana Gasteyer, not Kathryn Hahn, stars in the new Detroit-based comedy series "American Auto." To me she looks like a cross between Hahn and another talented comedic actress, Jennifer Coolidge ("Legally Blonde"), but I'm willing to bet you've seen Gasteyer before. She was a regular on "Saturday Night Live" from 1996 to 2002, and then played helicopter mom Sheila Shay on the sitcom "Suburgatory." She followed that role with a federal judge on "The Good Wife" and returned to comedy as a drama teacher on "The Goldbergs." "American Auto" is another workplace comedy created by Justin Spitzer, the same person who created the successful NBC comedy "Superstore." The commercials for the new

series keeping touting it as the next "The Office." Perhaps they can safely make that assumption because Spitzer was a writer and producer on that acclaimed series earlier in his career.

As for Hahn, the character of the delightfully devious Agatha was so well received on "WandaVision" that Disney+ is creating a spin-off series for her character titled "House of Harkness."

Q: When is "Outlander" coming back? I hope it hasn't been canceled. It's been forever since I've seen a new episode. -- **K.I.**

A: In June 2021, the Starz network announced that the historical time travel series "Outlander" would return with new episodes in March 2022. That seemed like an eternity for its fans, but with 2021 in the rearview mirror, the season premiere is just around the corner.

"Outlander" is based on a series of novels by Diana Gabaldon, with each new season adapted from a different book. The upcoming sixth season is based on Gabaldon's "A Breath of Snow and Ashes," once again featuring Claire (Caitriona Balfe), a time-traveling British nurse, and Jamie

(Sam Heughan), a Highland warrior. Shakespearean actor Mark Lewis Jones joins the cast this season as a new settler named Tom, who first met Jamie in prison.

You can catch the first four seasons of "Outlander" on Netflix.

Q: Whatever happened to 1980s heartthrob Aidan Quinn? I remember him in "Desperately Seeking Susan," but not much else after that. He is still in the industry? - **D.C.**

A: Yes, he's accrued quite a list of acting credits since he starred opposite Madonna in "Desperately Seeking Susan," but it's mostly been on television. In 2004, he played Lt. Miller on for a season on "Third Watch," an NBC series about first responders. He followed that with regular roles on the Showtime series "Weeds," the American version of "Prime Suspect," and his biggest role yet, an NYPD captain on "Elementary."

Next up for Quinn is a role in the film "Butterfly in the Typewriter," about eccentric novelist John Kennedy Toole.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFW5, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- "Joker" Oscar winner Joaquin Phoenix has a Napoleon complex in his future -- or at least it would help, since he'll take on the emperor of France in "Kitbag," reuniting him with "Gladiator" director Ridley Scott. His co-star is "Pieces of a Woman" Oscar nominee Vanessa Kirby. Kirby stars in "The Son" with Anthony Hopkins, Hugh Jackman and Laura Dern and also will star opposite Jake Gyllenhaal in the thriller "Suddenly."

Also taking on a famous persona is "Captain America" Chris Evans, who'll portray MGM superstar Gene Kelly in an untitled film about a 12-year-old boy who works at MGM in 1952 and creates an imaginary friendship with Kelly. But first we'll hear Evans as Buzz Lightyear in Disney's "Lightyear," due in theaters June 17, and see him in the Netflix \$200 million action thriller, "The Gray Man," with Ryan Gosling and Ana de Armas.

Taika Waititi, director of the soccer comedy, "Next Goal Wins" starring Michael Fassbender and Elizabeth Moss, had to replace Armie Hammer, due to his sex scandal. He cast Will Arnet in the role. Luckily for Hammer, he wasn't replaced in "Death on the Nile" because of the pandemic, despite sexual assault charges. "Nile" was long out of production. The L.A. district attorney has hinted he may drop Hammer's case, but the damage done is a publicity nightmare he may never recover from. Kevin Spacey, however, was not as lucky with "All The Money In The World" (2017) when he was replaced by Christopher Plummer because of Spacey's sexual assault case.

Michael Keaton finally revealed why he refused to play Batman again after his success in 1989's "Batman" (with a \$411.6 million gross) and "Batman Returns" (with a \$267 million gross). The latter two films were directed by Tim Burton and Keaton felt Burton's direction allowed a more campy film with a darker feel. When the late Joel Schumacher signed on to direct Keaton's third "Batman" film, Keaton felt he "could no longer play Batman if the tone was moving away from Batman's dark nature, it was always about Bruce Wayne to me." It's a whole new superhero ball game now. After re-creating Adrian Toomes/Vulture in "Spider-Man: Homecoming," and appearing in "Morbius" (January 29), top-lined by Jared Leto and Matt Smith, he'll again become Batman/Bruce Wayne in "The Flash" November 4, but here's the catch, in this version Batman/Bruce Wayne hails from an alternate universe, while Ben Affleck plays Batman/Bruce Wayne from the timeline of "The Flash" and in the upcoming "Batgirl." Alternate universes ... what? Do we really need two Batmen?

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Couch Theater

"The Afterparty" - High-school reunions are often anxiety-inducing events, but rarely do they involve drama as serious as an actual murder. In this eight-episode Apple original comedy series, comedian and national treasure Tiffany Haddish plays a police investigator attempting to find the killer among a group of the class of 2006. The recently departed was a much-hated fellow class member Xavier (played to smarmy perfection by Dave Franco), who also happened to be hosting said party. Every episode will leave you second-guessing who the perpetrator is, as each tells the story from a different suspect's perspective. (Apple TV+)

"Home Team" (PG) - The man who made a career out of playing dudes with everyman jobs is back, this time as youth league football coach. Kevin James plays Sean Payton, a former NFL coach who was suspended from the league for a year due to his involvement in bounty-for-injury shenanigans. During his time off, he signed on to help coach his son's losing and hapless Pop Warner team (think

"Bad News Bears," but with football). Having not spent much time together since his divorce, Coach Payton and son struggle to reconnect emotionally. The Netflix original movie also stars Taylor Lautner and Rob Schneider. (Netflix)

"Take Out With Lisa Ling" - For over 20 years Lisa Ling has hosted a variety of news and human interest shows, often with an international flair. Her latest project showcases Asian food in America, but goes deeper than lo mein and chop suey, highlighting the diverse backgrounds and communities behind the different types of cuisine. Asian immigrant families often began their American dreams with family-run restaurants - as did Lisa's grandfather - and their foods are what kept those families connected to their past while striving for better lives away from their homelands. All six episodes will be available January 27. (HBOMax)

"The Ice Age: Adventures of Buck Wild" (PG) - Sid the lispng sloth and friends Crash and Eddie return for more bumbling adventures. This

time around, they're back in the Lost World and hook up with new friend Buck Wild, a weasel voiced by Simon Pegg. Together the quartet embarks on a mission to save the world from dinosaur domination. In the process they realize that the mega-mammals aren't the only dangers to their mission. (Disney+)

"That's My Jam" (TV - Jimmie Fallon has taken segments from his late-night talk show and turned them into a lively full hour entertainment show. Two-person celebrity teams battle each other in various crazy music-related challenges, playing for bragging rights and ambiguous points rather than actual prizes. It's fast-paced and full of top-notch contestants including Ariana Grande, Kelly Clarkson, and Josh Groban attempting impossible karaoke and themed music trivia. It's spontaneous, seriously fun to watch and showcases musical talent in unexpected ways. If you've missed it in first run, Peacock has the first six episodes available on streaming. (Peacock)

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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* In mid-18th century France, eating potatoes was considered cruel and unusual punishment since they were not only thought of as feed for livestock, but believed to cause leprosy in humans. The fear was so widespread that the French passed a law banning them in 1748.

* Every year, Americans alone create around one-fifth of the world's trash.

* Some of the boulevard medians in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, have 8- to 10-foot deep bunkers with toilets in them, originally installed in the 1930s as a convenience for city workers who were out and about all day without access to a bathroom.

* According to the head of MI6, if Ian Fleming's iconic hero James Bond were real, he wouldn't be allowed to work for British intelligence due to lack of the required emotional intelligence, respect for the law and teamwork abilities.

* Colombian pop singer Shakira was rejected for the choir in her Catholic school because her music teacher thought that her vibrato was too strong and that she sounded "like a goat."

* In 1907, Parisian waiters went on strike for the right to grow a moustache.

* Cruise control in cars was invented in 1948 by the blind inventor and mechanical engineer Ralph Teetor. The idea was inspired by his frustration with his driver's habit of speeding up and slowing down as he talked.

* There is a material called FOGBANK, used by the U.S. Department of Energy, the precise nature of which is classified and so top secret and compartmentalized that the government once actually "forgot" how to make it due to a lack of actual records and dwindling institutional knowledge.

* A sloth takes two weeks to digest the food it's eaten.

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N	A	V	M	O	N	S	S	A	I	D
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Solution time: 24 mins.

Trivia Test

1. ANATOMY: How many ribs are in the human body?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of animal is a flying fox?
3. GEOGRAPHY: In which body of water does the island of Malta lie?
4. U.S. STATES: What animal is featured on the state flag of Louisiana?
5. TELEVISION: What was the name of the fictional airline whose jet crashed on an island in "Lost"?
6. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president ran on the slogan "Vote Yourself a Farm and Horses"?
7. MOVIES: What is the name of Thor's hammer in the earlier "Avengers" movies?
8. FOOD & DRINK: The "Iron Chef" TV cooking show originated

9. HISTORY: In what year did the Cold War end?
10. SCIENCE: What weather condition is measured in millibars?

- Answers
1. 24
 2. A type of bat
 3. Mediterranean Sea
 4. A pelican
 5. Oceanic Airlines
 6. Abraham Lincoln
 7. Mjolnir
 8. Japan
 9. 1989
 10. Atmospheric pressure

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Shade
- 4 Frontiersman
- 8 Pocket bread
- 12 100 percent
- 13 Dutch cheese
- 14 Pedestal occupant
- 15 Cowboy's sweetie
- 16 Do math
- 18 Slowpoke
- 20 Hydrocarbon suffix
- 21 Cushions
- 24 Persian Gulf emirate
- 28 Nutritional label info
- 32 Flamingo's color
- 33 Copper head?
- 34 Lauder of cosmetics
- 36 Summer on the Seine
- 37 Guns the engine
- 39 Toe of Italy's boot
- 41 Fashion
- 43 Hit with a stun gun
- 44 Ms. Thurman
- 46 Gossip
- 50 Baseball's "Iron Man"
- 55 Deluge refuge
- 56 Now, in a memo

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16				17				
18			19				20					
			21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31		32			
33				34				35		36		
37			38		39				40			
41				42		43						
			44		45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54			55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- 57 Cowboy's neckwear
- 58 Luau bowlful
- 59 Quick swims
- 60 Winter blanket
- 61 Novelist Rand
- 8 Accumulate
- 9 Hollywood's Lupino
- 10 Nanny's charge
- 11 Hearty quaff
- 17 German conjunction
- 19 Wall St. debut
- 22 Platter
- 23 Attack
- 25 Coffin stand
- 26 Con
- 27 Furniture brand
- 28 2006 Pixar film
- 29 Help a hood
- 30 Tax
- 31 Actress Ward
- 35 "Calm down!"
- 38 Drinks noisily
- 40 Spell-off
- 42 Brit. record label
- 45 LAPD alerts
- 47 Wine valley
- 48 Helen's home
- 49 Related
- 50 Scoundrel
- 51 "— was saying ..."
- 52 Napkin's place
- 53 "— -Tiki"
- 54 "Evil Woman" band

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

5			4			8		1
	8	4			3		9	
		9		6		3		
	4				2			7
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		1		5		9		
		3		7		1		
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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ANSWER: THE HEART

Math Blocks

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

	2		13
3	0		4
6		5	19
13	10	13	

5	8	9
1	0	3
7	2	4

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to
determine the phrase.

AHYTHEL THRAE

Answer: Healthy heart

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1913:** THE 16TH AMENDMENT, WHICH ESTABLISHES A FEDERAL INCOME TAX, IS RATIFIED.
- **1917:** THE U.S. BREAKS OFF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GERMANY AS IT ENTERS WORLD WAR I.
- **1995:** COL. EILEEN COLLINS BECOMES THE FIRST WOMAN TO PILOT THE SPACE SHUTTLE.



PULSE

rhythmical throbbing
of the arteries as
blood moves through them

*How they
say that in...*

ENGLISH: Heartbeat

SPANISH: Latido

ITALIAN: Pulsazione

FRENCH: Battement de coeur

GERMAN: Puls



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the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: STETHOSCOPE

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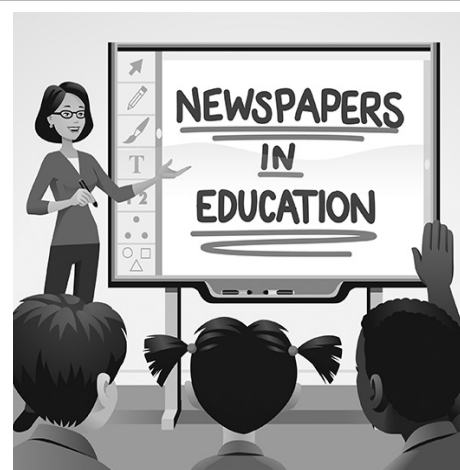
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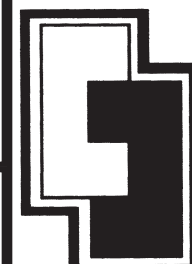
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 **The Mendota Reporter**



THE BACK PAGE

POLICE BLOTTER

DOMESTIC BATTERY
Alicia M. Lavasseur, 22, of 904 ½ Washington St., Mendota, was charged with domestic battery after police officers responded to multiple calls of an ongoing domestic dispute in the 900 block of Washington Street on Jan. 18 and Jan. 19. Lavasseur was charged with the offense at 12:37 a.m. Jan. 19. The subject was transported to the LaSalle County jail to appear before a judge for a bond hearing.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED
Darius L. Earle, 24, of LaSalle, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Lincoln Avenue and 15th Street at 6:36 p.m. Jan. 19. The subject was released with a notice to appear in court.

WARRANT ARREST
Stephen G. Hart, 43, of 706 Meriden St., Mendota, was arrested at 11:07 a.m. Jan. 20 on a valid LaSalle County arrest warrant for failure to appear/driving under the influence. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST
Ernesto Quijas, 27, of 1106 Sixth St., Mendota, was arrested at 5:46 p.m. Jan. 20 on a valid LaSalle County arrest warrant for failure to appear/driving under the influence. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST
Sara Joop, 42, of 503 Seventh Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 9:45 p.m. Jan. 22 on a valid Lee County arrest warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. The subject posted bond and was released with a Lee County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED
Ondrea L. Ward, 29, of 100 S. Ninth Ave., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended at 11:24 p.m. Jan. 22. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED
Isaac N. Ybarra, 26, of 205 Sandra Ave., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended at 3:54 p.m. Jan. 23. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED
Dustin Neighbor, 41, of 204 Cherry St., Mendota, was charged with driving while license revoked at 4:36 p.m. Jan. 23. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST
Anthony D. Madonna, 24, of 506 Fourth Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 6:21 a.m. Jan. 24 on a valid LaSalle County arrest warrant for failure to appear/criminal damage to property. The subject was unable to post bond and was transported to the LaSalle County jail.

CARDS OF THANKS

My wife and I would like to extend this opportunity to give a very warm thank you for the cards, gifts and OSF Saint Paul celebration honoring my retirement from medicine. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. I have been so blessed to have experienced and have known such an outstanding caring community for 33 years. These years have gone by much too quickly and once again I want to thank you for putting your trust in my care. The graces of God have been with me and I will always cherish these memories. May the graces of God always be with you.

Sincerely,
Dr. David Scholl and Jane Scholl

Mendota Police Department reminds citizens to lock vehicle at all times

MENDOTA – Members of the Mendota Police Department would like to remind citizens of an important safety tip. Whether your vehicle is in your garage, driveway or parked on the street, always keep it locked. Do not leave the keys in the ignition of your vehicle, even if you are only parking it for a short period of time. Do not leave purses, wallets or other valuables in your vehicle, as this attracts unwanted attention from a would-be thief. Please assist the Mendota Police Department to help keep you and your valuables safe.

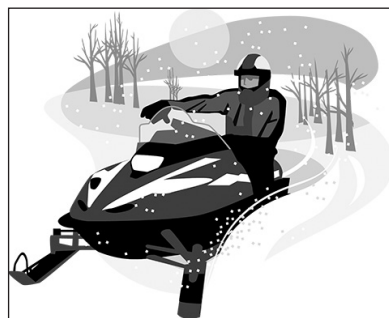
Snowmobilers must stay on routes

MENDOTA – For those individuals who are operating snowmobiles throughout the city of Mendota, please obey all traffic laws and show respect for private and public property. Remember, routes are in the curb edge of the roadway only, not the shoulder, through yards or on sidewalks. Those found in violation will be subject to any and all applicable fines, including restitution for any damage done. Designated snowmobile routes are as follows:

- Cherry Street from First Avenue west to Seventh Avenue
- Seventh Avenue from Cherry Street north to Fifth Street
- Fifth Street from Seventh Avenue east to alley between Seventh and Sixth avenues
- Alley between Seventh and Sixth avenues north to Seventh Street
- Seventh Street to Front Street
- Front Street north from Seventh to

Eighth streets

- Eighth Street west crossing BNSF railroad tracks
- 15th Street from First Avenue west to Lincoln Avenue
- Lincoln Avenue from 15th Street south to 12th Street
- 12th Street from Lincoln Avenue west to E. Main Street
- E. Main Street from 12th Street north to Illinois Route 251
- Third Street from W. Seventh Avenue west to 12th Avenue
- 12th Avenue from Third Street south to Second Street
- Second Street from 12th Avenue west to 14th Avenue
- 14th Avenue from Second Street south to Division Street
- Division Street from 14th Avenue west to west city limits



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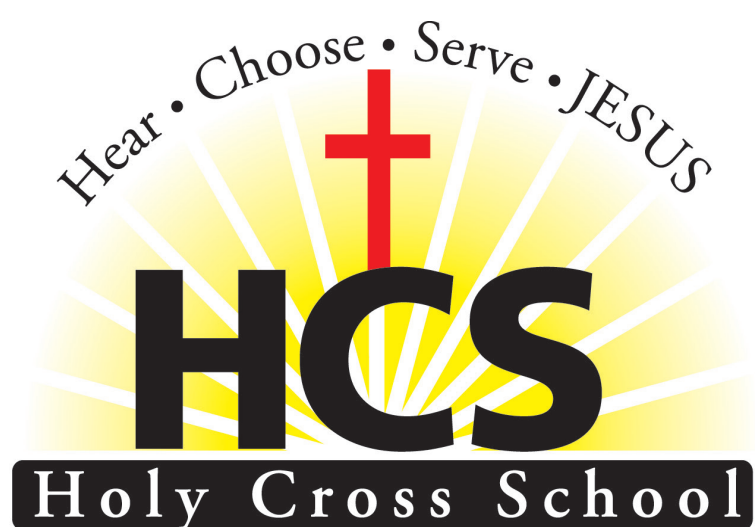
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SPORTS

MHS basketball schedules for remainder of the season

MENDOTA – Due to COVID-19 issues with the Mendota High School boys’ and girls’ basketball teams, many games have been postponed or canceled from the original schedule at the start of the season.

The remainder of the regular season schedule for the two teams is as follows:

MHS Girls’ Basketball

Jan. 27 – at Sterling Newman – 5:30
Jan. 29 – at Princeton – 1:00
Jan. 31 – Princeton – 5:30
Feb. 2 – Bureau Valley – 5:30
Feb. 3 – at Kewanee – 5:30
Feb. 8 – at Genoa-Kingston – 5:30
Feb. 9 – Rock Falls – 5:30
Feb. 10 – Hall – 5:30

MHS Boys’ Basketball

Jan. 28 – St. Bede – 5:30
Jan. 29 – North Boone – 1:00
Feb. 1 – Sterling Newman – 5:30
Feb. 4 – at Princeton – 5:30
Feb. 7 – Princeton – 5:30
Feb. 8 – Kewanee – 5:30
Feb. 11 – at Sterling Newman – 5:30
Feb. 12 – Newark – 1:30
Feb. 15 – at St. Bede – 5:30
Feb. 16 – Hall – 5:30
Feb. 17 – Byron – 5:30

Mendota girls beaten by Hall, St. Bede in league

Still missing players due to illness, the Mendota Lady Trojans came up short in a 41-23 loss to Hall in Three Rivers Conference action on Jan. 20 at Spring Valley.



P. Manning

Mendota played without its two post players, Reanna Brant and Naitzy Garcia, and Hall was able to exploit that by winning the battle on the glass and consequently converting shots from close range.

“A majority of Hall’s buckets were put-backs and that obviously hurt,” said Mendota coach John Hansen. “And them shooting 16 free throws to our two didn’t help.”

Mendota had a strong first quarter with nine points and trailed by just three (12-9) heading to the second period, but Hall scored 13 second-quarter points behind a pair of three-pointers and the Lady Trojans managed only four tallies.

Mendota outscored the home team 8-6 in the third, but then followed that up with just two points in the final frame.

Paige Manning led the Lady Trojans with eight points and six steals. Isabella Tolentino provided six points, while Natalie Bodmer had five points and six rebounds. Katie Jenner topped the team with seven caroms and Kya Delao collected five steals.

St. Bede posted a 53-27 triumph over the Lady Trojans in a conference game on Jan. 24 at Peru.

The home team jumped out to a 16-7 first-quarter lead and then dropped in 22 points in the second period

to take a commanding 38-17 lead to the locker room.

“We hit a rough patch at both ends of the court and when we got it together in was way too late,” noted Hansen.

Manning’s 10 points paced Mendota, while Naitzy Garcia had five rebounds.

Mendota fell to 2-17 overall and 1-6 in Three Rivers games.

HALL 41, MENDOTA 23

Mendota (23)		FG	FT	Reb	TP
Jenner	1	0-0	7	2	
K. Delao	0	0-2	2	0	
Bodmer	2	0-0	6	5	
Tolentino	3	0-0	2	6	
Manning	4	0-0	4	8	
F. Delao	0	0-0	1	0	
Wasmer	0	0-0	1	0	
Reel	1	0-0	1	2	
Totals	11	0-2	24	23	

Hall (41)

Hall (41)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Mautino	3	1-2	2	9	
Giacometti	1	0-0	1	2	
Christiansen	5	6-7	3	17	
Jones	1	0-2	0	2	
Wozniak	3	1-1	2	7	
Pellegrini	0	0-0	1	0	
Vasic	0	1-2	0	1	
Newton	1	1-2	1	3	
Totals	14	10-16	10	41	

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Mendota	9	13	21	23
Hall	12	25	31	41
Three-point goals: Mendota - Bodmer 1; Hall - Mautino 2, Christiansen 1				

ST. BEDE 53, MENDOTA 27

Mendota (27)		FG	FT	Reb	TP
Jenner	0	0-0	4	0	
K. Delao	1	1-2	3	3	
Salinas	0	0-0	2	0	
Bodmer	1	0-0	2	3	
Manning	3	4-6	3	10	
Zinke	0	0-0	1	0	
F. Delao	0	1-2	1	1	
Stewart	1	0-0	3	2	
Wasmer	1	0-0	1	3	
Reel	1	0-0	2	2	
Garcia	1	1-2	5	3	
Totals	9	7-12	27	27	

St. Bede (53)

St. Bede (53)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Smudzinski	4	1-1	0	9	
Ledford	2	1-2	0	7	
Stoudt	6	3-5	2	15	
Bosnich	1	1-4	2	3	
Hermes	0	0-0	3	0	
Gray	1	0-0	1	2	
Maschmann	4	1-1	3	9	
George	2	1-1	0	6	
Hart	1	0-0	1	2	
Totals	21	8-14	12	53	

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Mendota	7	17	22	27
St. Bede	16	38	50	53
Three-point goals: Mendota - Bodmer 1, Wasmer 1; St. Bede - George 1, Ledford 2				

BOWLING

Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Jan. 17
— 1. Sports-N-Stuff 60-30;
2. Ramer Inc. 46-44; 3. Bad Kats 43-47; 4. Mendota Agri-Products 43-47; 5. CM Farm 40-50; 6. Leagal Beagles 38-52
High team game (scratch) — Mendota Agri-Products 761, Sports-N-Stuff 711, Leagal Beagles 669
High team game (hdcp) — Ramer Inc. 939, Sports-N-Stuff 936, Mendota Agri-Products 918
High team series (scratch) — Mendota Agri-Products 2228, Sports-N-Stuff 2002, Leagal Beagles 1880
High team series (hdcp) — Mendota Agri-Products 2699, Ramer Inc. 2692, Sports-N-Stuff 2677
Men’s high game (scratch) — Ron Westphal 253, Matt Ramer 226, Bob Thomas 214

Men’s high game (hdcp) — Ron Westphal 273, Bob Moench Jr. 266, Bob Thomas 263

Men’s high series (scratch) — Ron Westphal 617, Matt Ramer 595, Luke Ross 587

Men’s high series (hdcp) — Bob Moench Jr. 751, Aaron Holocker 700, Carl Reistad 696

Women’s high game (scratch) — Kassidi Guerrero 221, Hannah Westphal 180, Gail Sessler 172

Women’s high game (hdcp) — Margina Schwartzbach 255, Kassidi Guerrero 254, Hannah Westphal 246

Women’s high series (scratch) — Kassidi Guerrero 600, Hannah Westphal 508, Brenda Westphal 455

Women’s high series (hdcp) — Hannah Westphal 706, Margina Schwartzbach 702, Kassidi Guerrero 699

MHS boys fall short in 4 straight games

Nineteen days after their last game, the Mendota Trojans suited up and hit the hardwood against Bureau Valley on Jan. 18 at Manlius. The long layoff showed as the Trojans dropped a 59-46 decision to the Storm in a Three Rivers Conference battle.



I. Nanez

Mendota, which had beaten Bureau Valley in December, managed just one field goal and three free throws in the opening stanza, and fell behind 15-5 at the conclusion of the quarter. The Trojans heated up in the second period with 15 points and were able to slice the deficit to single digits (27-20) at intermission. But Bureau Valley pumped in 18 points in the third quarter, compared to 10 for the Trojans, to take a comfortable lead to the final frame.

Mendota placed three players in double figure scoring, led by Krew Bond with 13 points. Ted Landgraf was next with 11 markers and Ryne Strauss contributed 10 tallies. Bureau Valley had a balanced scoring attack with four of the five starters hitting double digits. The Storm knocked down eight shots from three-point range.

Hot-shooting Kewanee dealt the Trojans a 64-50 loss in a conference match-up on Jan. 21 at Kewanee. Mendota dropped to 1-3 in league play. The Boilers raced out to a

19-11 lead after the first period. Mendota’s offense heated up in the second quarter as it fired in four three-pointers, including three by Bond, but Kewanee matched the Trojans with four trifectas of its own to take a 39-27 lead to the locker room. The Boilers put the game away in the third frame when it outscored Mendota, 22-10.

Bond scored 30 of the Trojans’ 50 points and he ended with five field goals from three-point land. Isaiah Nanez added seven markers. Kewanee finished up with nine three-pointers.

Mendota met up with former Big Northern foe Rock Falls and the Rockets came away with a 53-36 triumph on Jan. 22 at Rock Falls.

It was a slow start for both teams as Rock Falls owned a 5-3 lead after the first quarter. Bond pumped in 10 second-quarter points and helped the Trojans to a 17-14 halftime lead, but Rock Falls came out of the locker room with a vengeance and outscored Mendota, 37-19, in the second half to claim the win.

Bond paced the Trojans with 21 points, while Nanez and Isaac Guzman had five points apiece.

Earlville rolled over Mendota, 52-33, on Jan. 24 at the MHS gym. The Trojans dropped to 3-14 on the season.

The Red Raiders jumped out to a 13-7 lead after the first quarter and carried a 20-12 advantage to intermission.

The difference came in the third period when Earlville outscored the Trojans, 19-10, to move in front 39-22 with just eight minutes left to play. Bond topped Trojan scor-

EARLVILLE 52, MENDOTA 33

Earlville (52)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Vasquez	3	0-0	0	6	
Gr. Cook	3	2-2	4	8	
Keller	4	1-3	4	10	
Ga. Cook	5	1-1	2	12	
Weymouth	0	0-0	1	0	
Browder	4	4-5	2	16	
Totals	19	8-11	13	52	

Mendota (33)

Mendota (33)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Guzman	0	0-0	1	0	
Bond	5	6-9	2	16	
Orozco	0	0-0	1	0	
Perez	1	0-0	0	2	
Landgraf	0	0-0	1	0	
Stamberger	0	0-0	1	0	
R. Strauss	2	0-0	5	4	
Nanez	4	1-2	2	11	
Rocha	0	0-0	1	0	
Totals	12	7-11	14	33	

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Earlville	13	20	39	52
Mendota	7	12	22	33
Three-point goals: Mendota - Nanez 2; Earlville - Keller 1, Ga. Cook 1, Browder 4				

KEWANEE 64, MENDOTA 50

Mendota (50)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Guzman	2	0-0	0	5	
Bond	10	5-8	2	30	
Landgraf	2	0-0	3	4	
R. Strauss	0	0-0	3	0	
Nanez	1	4-4	0	7	
Perez	2	0-0	0	4	
Totals	17	9-12	8	50	

Kewanee (64)

Kewanee (64)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Bruno	5	0-1	0	13	
Powe	5	2-2	1	12	
Johnson	1	0-0	1	2	
Clark	5	0-0	2	13	
Br. Lewis	3	0-0	1	6	
Contreras	0	0-0	2	0	
Bl. Lewis	3	0-0	0	8	
Logan	1	0-0	0	2	
Campbell	1	0-0	0	3	
Little	0	0-0	1	0	
Conner	2	1-2	3	5	
Totals	26	3-5	11	64	

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Mendota	11	27	37	50
Kewanee	19	39	61	64
Three-point goals: Mendota - Bond 5, Guzman 1, Nanez 1; Kewanee - Bl. Lewis 2, Bruno 3, Campbell 1, Clark 3				

Sophomore cagers lose two league games; top Earlville

Bureau Valley downed Mendota, 50-36, in Three Rivers Conference sophomore boys’ basketball action on Jan. 18 at Manlius.

After leading 10-7 at the end of one period, the Trojans surrendered the lead in the second quarter and trailed, 23-20, at intermission. The home team then outscored Mendota, 27-16, in the second half.

Logan Dewey led the way for the Trojans with 11 points, followed by Owen Aughenbaugh with seven, Ryan Stevenson with six and Cale Strauss with five.

Mendota hung with Kewanee for three quarters before the Boilers pulled away in the fourth quarter for a 46-31 conference win on Jan. 21 at Kewanee.

The Trojans were down six (16-10) after the opening stanza, then trailed by just four points at the half (22-18) and after three periods (35-21). But Mendota failed to score in the fourth frame while Kewanee put up 11 points to preserve the victory.

Strauss and Jace Baird both pumped in 11 points for the Trojans, while Dewey contributed seven points.

A strong second half propelled Rock Falls over the Trojans, 56-34, on Jan. 22 at Rock Falls.

The two teams played to a 12-12 tie after the first eight minutes. Rock Falls went up by two (21-19) at the break, and then the home team outscored Mendota, 19-2, in the third period to pull away for the win.

Baird topped the scoring column for the Trojans with nine points, while Strauss provided six tallies.

Mendota toppled Earlville, 39-24, on Jan. 24 at the MHS gym.

The Trojans sprinted out to a 12-1 lead after the first period and owned an 18-8 halftime advantage.

Aughenbaugh led the charge with 13 points and Dewey supplied eight markers. Easton Fruit (10) and Trenton Fruit (8) paced Earlville.

ers with 16 points and Nanez supplied 11 tallies. Earlville placed three players in double figures, led by Ryan Browder with 16 points. He connected on four three-pointers.

ROCK FALLS 53, MENDOTA 36

Mendota (36)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Guzman	2	0-0	1	5	
Bond	6	7-10	2	21	
Landgraf	0	0-0	4	0	
R. Strauss	0	3-4	2	3	
Nanez	1	2-2	3	5	
Perez	1	0-1	0	2	
Totals	10	12-17	12	36	

Rock Falls (53)

Rock Falls (53)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
D. Hernandez	3	0-0	2	6	
Heald	4	0-0	1	10	
Sands	9	0-0	2	22	
Goff	3	1-1	2	8	
Cross	1	3-4	3	5	
Castaneda	0	0-0	1	0	
Hicks	0	0-0	1	0	
Schultz	1	0-0	5	2	
Totals	21	4-5	17	53	

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Mendota	3	17	29	36
Rock Falls	5	14	35	53
Three-point goals: Mendota - Bond 2, Guzman 1, Nanez 1; Rock Falls - Heald 2, Sands 4, Goff 1				

BUREAU V. 59, MENDOTA 46

Mendota (46)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Bond	4	4-4	2	13	
Landgraf	5	1-2	3	11	
R. Strauss	4	2-2	2	10	
Perez	2	0-0	4	4	
Nanez	1	0-0	0	2	
Orozco	1	0-0	0	3	
Stamberger	0	1-4	1	1	
Koch	1	0-0	0	2	
Totals	18	8-16	11	46	

Bureau Valley (59)

Bureau Valley (59)		FG	FT	Fls	TP
Foster	4	0-0	1	10	
Britt	4	2-2	1	12	
Salisbury	6	0-0	3	15	
Bolin	2	0-0	3	4	
Johnson	6	1-2	0	14	
Smith	0	0-0	1	0	
Ca.Balensiefen	0	0-0	2	0	
Co.Balensiefen	0	0-0	2	0	
Stier	0	2-2	2	2	
Higgins	1	0-0	1	2	
Totals	23	5-6	16	59	

SPORTS

Outdoor activities that are perfect for seniors

The great outdoors beckons people of all ages. Fresh air can be hard to resist and the benefits of spending time outdoors are so numerous that it behooves anyone, including seniors, to answer the call of nature.

According to researchers with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, human beings benefit both physically and psychologically from spending time in nature. Such experiences can reduce stress and help lower heart rates, potentially decreasing individuals' risk for cardiovascular disease. In addition, the Forest Service notes that spending time outside in green spaces has been linked to a lower risk of depression.

Seniors who are retired or even aging empty nesters who are still in the workforce can make great use of their free time by venturing into the great outdoors. The following are a handful of senior-friendly outdoor activities that provide a great reason to get off the couch and take in all that Mother Nature has to offer.

• **Hiking:** Hiking provides a great workout and an ideal opportunity to spend time in

an idyllic setting. The U.S. National Park Service notes that hiking helps individuals build stronger muscles and bones, improves their sense of balance, has a positive effect on heart health, and can decrease the risk of certain respiratory problems. Hiking is an especially attractive outdoor activity for seniors, as many parks feature trails with varying degrees of difficulty, ensuring there's a trail for seniors whether they're seasoned or novice hikers.

• **Water aerobics:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that water-based exercises can be especially helpful individuals with chronic diseases, a category many seniors fall into. The CDC notes that one study published in the journal *Arthritis & Rheumatology* found that improves the use of joints affected by arthritis without worsening symptoms. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also notes that swimming can lead to improved health for people with diabetes and heart disease. Seniors can reap these benefits by going for a dip in their own backyard pools or a local body of water, such as

a lake or ocean. Many swim clubs also offer discounted memberships to seniors, making these another great and affordable way to reap the benefits of swimming.

• **Fishing:** Of course not all outdoor activities need to make seniors huff and puff. Fishing provides a great reason to get outdoors, and many individuals devoted to fishing report feeling less stressed after a day spent casting for their favorite fish. Individuals who consume what they catch also can benefit by improving their diets, as the American Heart Association notes that consuming certain types of fish has been linked to a lower risk for heart disease and obesity.

• **Volunteering:** Local environmental groups often

sponsor cleanups at parks and waterfront attractions like beaches and lakes. Volunteering with such organizations is a great way to get outside and give back, and working with like-minded individuals can be a great way for seniors to meet new people. In addition, a national study sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service in 2019 found that 88 percent of Senior Corps volunteers who initially reported a lack of companionship reported a decrease in feelings of isolation after volunteering.

The opportunities for seniors to enjoy the great outdoors are endless. Taking advantage of such chances can benefit seniors in myriad ways.

MHS matmen in Sandwich 1A Regional

SANDWICH – The Mendota High School wrestling team will participate in the Sandwich Class 1A Regional to be held Saturday, Feb. 5.

Other schools in the regional include Amboy, Aurora Central Catholic, Elgin Harvest Christian Academy, Mooseheart, St. Bede, Plano, Sandwich, Somonauk and West Chicago Wheaton Academy.

First-, second- and third-place winners from each weight class advance to the Princeton Sectional scheduled for Friday, Feb. 11 and Saturday, Feb. 12.

Wrestling

Continued from Page B2

– Friant (R) pinned Diego Sandoval (M), 1:17; 195 – double forfeit; 220 – double forfeit; 285 – double forfeit
Princeton 51, Mendota 12
 106 – double forfeit; 113 – Gibson (P) pinned Thornton (M), 0:33; 120 – Christiansen (P) won forfeit; 126 – Harris (P) won forfeit; 132 – Benavidez (P) won forfeit; 138 – Arkels (P) pinned Hermosillo (M), 3:43; 145 – A. Christiansen (P) pinned Jezewski (M), 0:22; 152 – Turner (M) won forfeit; 160 – Etheridge (P) won forfeit; 170 – Vujanov (P) dec. Belmonte (M), 12-8; 182 – Sandoval (M) won forfeit; 195 – double forfeit; 220 – Wright (P) won forfeit; 285 – double forfeit

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LOCAL AND AREA

A major key to your breakthrough

Jesus came to earth to show us God's love and to give His life so we could have eternal life. He was perfect...sinless...and He willingly took our sin upon Himself on the cross to pay the price for our salvation. God's love for us is so amazing!

John 3:16 (NIV) says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (emphasis mine). And in John 8:31-32, Jesus says, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will

set you free"

It's so important for us to know the truth, because the lies we believe—especially about ourselves—can cause many other problems in our lives. That can mean trouble in our relationships, our work, our health, or any other area of our life.

The key to getting free from deception and overcoming the issues that hold us back from the life Jesus died to give us is facing truth. Because when we face the truth about ourselves, we grow spiritually and access more of God's grace, which gives us the ability to do what we need to do.

I've learned to ask God on a regular basis, "Show me truth. Help me to face the truth You show me—especially what You show me about myself."

I remember when God showed me I needed to stop feeling sorry for myself. I used to have such a problem with self-pity! I'd been abused, I didn't get to go to college, Dave didn't spend enough time with me...and on and on.

I blamed my problems on the injustices of my past and complained, "I'm this way because my dad sexually abused me and my mother abandoned me; she knew what he was doing and didn't do anything to help me. I'm this way because my first husband was a con man and petty thief and he ran around with other women."

God spoke to my heart and said, "That's true—that's why you are the way you are. But don't let it become an excuse to stay that way."

I needed to stop wasting my time feeling sorry for myself and begin taking responsibility for my life, specifically my thoughts, attitudes and behavior. It was so hard to accept this truth...but I realized that if I wanted the power of God to work in my life, I had to give up self-pity, trust Him, and obey His Word.

This reminds me of Deuteronomy 7. After God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to lead them to their promised land, He told



them, "When the Lord your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations—the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites...and when the Lord your God has delivered them over to you and you have defeated them, then you must destroy them totally. Make no treaty with them, and show them no mercy" (Deuteronomy 7:1-2).

Just as the Israelites had enemies to face to take possession of God's good plan for their lives, we have our own "ites." And we have to destroy them totally and "show them no mercy."

The first thing we must do is take responsibility for where we are in life. You may be in your mess because of something you've done or because of something someone else has done that you couldn't control. But no matter who has caused your hurts or problems, you don't have to stay stuck there if you will cooperate with God and obey what He puts in your heart to do.

God's truth is armor! When you start walking in

the truth, it gives you the ability to overcome your enemy and get free from the bondages that have held you back.

Ephesians 6:14 says, "Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist..." In other words, when you're going through something tough, you'd better hang on to God's Word tighter than you ever have before!

Remember that God loves you so much He gave His only Son so you could have eternal life. He wants you to be free from any injustice, pain or problem that is keeping you from growing spiritually and becoming everything He has created you to be.

Humble yourself before God and pray, "Jesus, I need You to help me." Spend time each day in prayer and studying His Word, and do whatever He shows you to do. No matter how hard it is, you can trust Him to give you the ability to do your part in the process and know that He will do what you can't do.

Even though it's painful and it may not seem fair, forget everyone else's part in your problem except your own. God is your vindicator and

He will deal with your enemies as you focus on doing what He shows you to do. God makes wrong things right...and He will lead you to your breakthrough!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's two-teaching CD resource Keys to Breakthrough. 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 AUTHENTICALLY, UNIQUELY 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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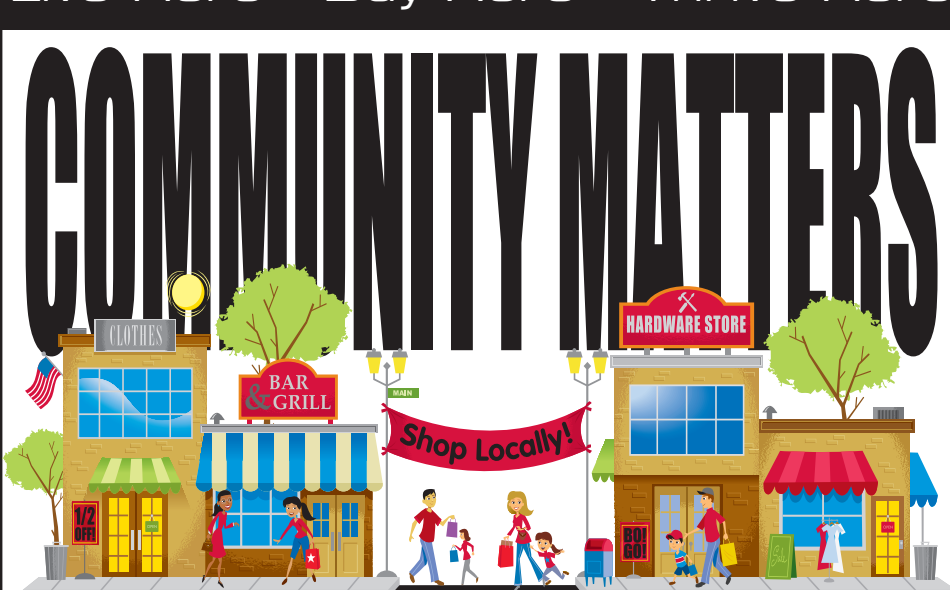
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By William Arthur Ward

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

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

EXODUS 17:11-12

“Aaron Holding Moses' Arm”
by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794-1872)

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Feb. 3 - 6-7:30 p.m. Webelos

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Jan. 30 - 9:40 a.m. In-person Annual
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The Greater Heroism

By Max Ehrmann

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

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Job in the Old
or New Testament or neither?

2. The book of Hebrews tells us
to entertain strangers as they
may be ...?

Demons, Angels, Prophets, Re-
incarnated

3. From Genesis 17:15, what
was the name of Abraham's
wife? Ruth, Anna, Abigail, Sarah

4. Which book of the New Tes-
tament is divided into
three parts?
Corinthians, Timothy, Peter,
John

5. In Mark 5:30, who said, “Who
touched my clothes”?
Jesus, John the Baptist, David,
Solomon

6. What was the name of Seth's
son, thus Adam's grandson?
Eliam, Eadbhard, Enosh, Eadmer

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Angels; 3) Sarah;
4) John; 5) Jesus; 6) Enosh
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801 Monroe, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-3828

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

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

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- one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



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101
LEGAL NOTICE

**CITY OF MENDOTA
ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR PERIOD ENDING 04/21**

REVENUE SUMMARY: PROPERTY TAX-CORPORATE \$2,191,371.19 - ROAD & BRIDGE TAX \$122,827.91 - PROPERTY TAX-FIRE PROTECTION \$56,920.05 - PROPERTY TAX-POLICE PROTECTION \$56,710.79 - PROPERTY TAX-AMBULANCE \$56,920.05 - PROPERTY TAX-LIABILITY INSURANCE \$177,938.03 - PROPERTY TAX-STREET LIGHTING \$37,952.42 - PROPERTY TAX-PARKS \$56,920.05 - PROPERTY TAX-PLAYGROUND \$6,834.75 - PROPERTY TAX-ESDA \$37,952.42 - PROPERTY TAX-SCHOOL CROSS GUARD \$15,180.49 - PROPERTY TAX-WORKMAN'S COMP. \$197,716.64 - PROPERTY TAX-AUDIT \$34,944.00 - PROPERTY TAX-FIRE PENSION \$331,512.57 - PROPERTY TAX-POLICE PENSION \$1,126,772.16 - FOREIGN FIRE INSURANCE TAX \$12,442.20 - HOTEL/MOTEL TAX \$38,111.81 - TELECOMMUNICATION TAX \$105,995.33 - LIQUOR LICENSES \$22,250.00 - PINBALL & ARCADE LICENSE \$600.00 - DOG LICENSES \$2,240.00 - FRANCHISE LICENSES TV \$84,050.84 - OTHER LICENSES \$100.00CR - BUILDING PERMITS \$6,455.00 - CONTRACTORS LICENSE \$12,950.00 - VIDEO GAMING TERMINALS LICENSE \$3,350.00 - OTHER PERMITS \$600.00 - STATE INCOME TAX \$894,830.90 - PERSONAL PROPERTY REPLACEMNT TAX \$161,491.28 - SALES TAX \$1,540,542.94 - SALES TAX AUTO RENTAL \$1,400.79 - LOCAL USE TAX \$331,645.24 - CHARITABLE/TIP GAMES TAX \$1,786.32 - VIDEO GAMING MACHINES TAX \$117,896.32 - CANABIS USE TAX \$46,025.67 - COURT FINES \$10,832,427.12 - PENALTIES GARBAGE \$42,970.69 - GARBAGE COLLECTION REVENUE \$516,784.86 - GARBAGES STICKERS \$154.00 - GARBAGES BAGS \$868.50 - AMBULANCE FEES \$587,454.04 - CONTRACTED FEES POLICE \$100.00 - CONTRACTED FEES/DUI REIMBURSEMENT \$390.68 - CONTRACTED FIRE EXTRICATION \$1,638.00 - FIRE/AMB INTERCEPTS \$2,723.33 - RESOURCE/DRUG ENFORCEMENT COORD. \$49,656.00 - PARKING FINES/ACCIDENT REPORTS \$9,982.50 - BIRTH/DEATH CERTIFICATES \$5,241.45 - MAINTENANCE FEES STATE HWY \$45,637.19 - CITY SERVICES \$17,191.95 - GRANT MONEY \$13,730.00 - TRIDENT DRUG REIMBURSEMENT \$156,160.00 - CARES-LOCAL CURE GRANT REVENUE \$304,117.00 - INTEREST INCOME \$123,343.63 - RENTAL INCOME \$143,980.06 - RENTAL INCOME/INDUSTRIAL PARK \$31,425.00 - RENTAL INCOME/RURAL FIRE \$4,100.00 - RENTAL INCOME/RURAL AMBULANCE \$5,500.00 - RENTAL INCOME/SNYDERS GROVE \$38,775.00 - COMMUNICATIONS TOWER RENTAL \$10,190.76 - WATER DEPT. PROP. MAINT. FEE \$21,400.00 - RENTAL WIXOM FARM \$17,920.00 - INSURANCE CLAIMS/REIMBURSE \$1,662.04 - PARK RENT \$525.00 - ECONOMIC DEV/ILL AVE \$250.00 - CHAMBER MAINTENANCE FEES \$2,775.00 - MISCELLANEOUS INCOME \$83,009.55 - INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFER \$623,663.88 - INTERFUND TRANSFER \$14,489.00CR - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RECEIVABLE \$150,656.65 - LA SALLE CNTY-DRUG \$5,659.00 - LASALLE CNTY-FINES \$492.00 - STATE POLICE - FINES \$280.00 - STATE POLICE - FORFEITURE \$210.00 - STATE POLICE - CASH CROP \$140.00 - DRUG SEIZURE REVENUE \$512,330.00 - MISC. INCOME K9 \$2,910.97 - MISC. INCOME SPECIAL ACT \$242,819.00 - WILL COUNTY FTA \$70.00 - BUREAU COUNTY FTA \$140.00 - LASALLE COUNTY E-CITATION \$528.00 - MOTOR FUEL TAX \$506,870.02 - PROPERTY TAX-IMRF \$22 - PROPERTY TAX-FICA & MEDICARE \$.34CR - PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF PROPERTY \$1,301.13 - WATER SALES \$697,777.39 - WATER SALES/CITY \$14,935.28 - WATER SALES/CITY OF MENDOTA \$1,034,108.61 - TAP-ON FEES WATER \$150.00 - METER SALES \$275.00 - SERVICE FEE \$1,056,742.05 - SERVICE LINE REPAIR \$21,785.00 - LINEN INCOME \$343.75CR - GRATUITIES \$50.00CR - CATERED FOOD SALES \$1,295.00CR - BEER SALES \$500.00CR - SODA/COFFEE SALES \$444.00 - IN HOUSE FOOD SALES \$8,520.25 - MOTEL TAX INCOME \$302,246.00 - RENTAL FULL HALL WEEKEND \$475.00 - RENTAL FULL BALLROOM/WK-DAY \$450.00 - RENTAL SECTIONS \$6,500.00 - RENTAL CONFERENCE ROOM \$1,650.00 - RENTAL MISSION ROOM \$75.00 - RENTAL PERGOLA \$50.00 - RENTAL MASS OFFICE RENTAL \$3,000.00 - UNREALIZED LOSS (GAIN) \$1,339,518.00 - REALIZED (GAIN) LOSS \$418,049.22 - TOTAL REVENUES: \$27,903,265.09.

COMPENSATION SUMMARY: BOELK, DAVID W \$6,900.00 - FITZPATRICK, JAMES F \$4,500.00 - HESSENBERGER, JOHN J \$4,500.00 - HOCHSTATTER, LEO J \$4,500.00 - HOLLAND III, JOHN M \$4,500.00 - JOHNSON, VICKI L \$4,500.00 - KIM, KYLE L \$4,500.00 - MILLER, JAY \$4,500.00 - PEASLEY, MARK E \$4,500.00 - SILFIES, MICHAEL J \$23,737.33 - EISENBERG, LONNY L \$87,886.95 - EUTIS, TERRY M \$51,545.87 - FALCON, DANIEL J \$66,994.82 - FISHER, BRIAN L \$97,955.20 - FITZGERALD, TOBY S \$72,943.87 - GONDA, VICTOR J \$67,476.65 - GREEN, RACHEL A \$38,655.60 - GRINKA, MARK R \$52,170.34 - HAGEMANN, DALE \$75,312.93 - HERNANDEZ, DANIEL \$60,281.92 - HOCHSTATTER, CHAD R \$59,583.78 - HUFTEL, DALTON J \$60,652.80 - HUNT, ZACHARY \$47,991.58 - KACKERT, TAMMY L \$36,490.83 - KAMMERER, LUCAS \$65,043.68 - KELLEN, GREG S \$89,994.97 - KENT, TYLER \$78,579.09 - KIM, NATHANIAL \$49,825.30 - KIMREY, TIMOTHY D. \$88,403.12 - LETTERLY, WENDY L \$49,774.96 - MARTIN, BRADLEY S \$70,913.19 - MARTIN JR, SETH \$56,681.98 - CRONIN-MCCONVILLE, EMILY J \$63,614.80 - MCPHEETERS, KEVIN D. \$85,697.67 - MCWADE, MARY E \$34,872.73 - MYERS, JOHN R \$75,420.02 - MANN, AMY E \$74,861.85 - PETERSEN, PAUL D \$69,615.62 - PHALEN, JASON B \$58,591.02 - RAYA, JOSE DE JESUS \$66,247.21 - RUTISHAUSER, BRADY \$17,134.44 - RUTISHAUSER, DENNIS J \$108,356.06 - SARVER, JOSHUA S \$66,293.56 - SETCHELL, JUSTIN \$80,188.96 - STREMLAU, NICHOLAS \$56,054.90 - TUCKER JR, RANDY \$66,081.64 - URBANSKI, ZACHARY S \$68,156.55 - YUCUS, ABRAM \$53,379.76 - BARKMAN, KAYLEE L \$417.50 - BAUER, CARRIE A \$105.50 - BENTLEY, BENJAMIN J \$5,697.04 - BLAIR, KIMBERLY A \$105.00 - BOELK, MADISYN \$897.50 - BOELK, MACEY \$780.00 - BOELK, MYAH N \$552.50 - BOELK, MARLIE \$497.50 - BOKUS, ANNA L \$267.50 - BURNETT, BARNEY J \$480.00 - BURKE, CATHY K \$8,127.66 - CALDERON, TANYA \$114.50 - CESSNA, ROBERT P \$62,400.00 - CHAON, PATRICIA A \$3,232.63 - CHRISTMAN, HOLLY A \$5,093.00 - DAGENAIS, JEFFREY \$3,864.18 - DELONG, NOAH M \$2,809.00 - DENK, JANET M \$4,575.25 - ESCATEL, UVALDO \$195.35 - FEURER, TIMOTHY C \$68.50 - GARZA, AARON \$814.00 - GREEN, ABRAM J \$127.00 - HAMMEN, MICHAEL A \$54,080.00 - HAYWARD, ADAM L \$541.98 - HORNING, BRANDON \$7,096.50 - JANSSEN, CHERYL L \$304.50 - JOYCE, TAYLOR R \$11,822.00 - KACKERT, TAMMY L \$4,800.00 - KIM, ALLYSON \$560.00 - KLECKNER, GLENN \$288.00 - KREWER, RYAN J \$2,622.00 - LASHONSE, JOSEPH \$11,962.00 - LEE, JULIE A \$198.50 - LOPEZ, JULIO \$752.46 - MARTINSON, TWILA \$340.00 - MCCONVILLE, GRACE E \$480.00 - MCCONVILLE, MEREDITH \$4,345.00 - MORRIS, ERIC L. \$1,800.36 - NETTLETON, DEBORAH A \$78.50 - PERRYMAN, AARON \$4,341.93 - POLITCH, DENNIS W \$9,060.00 - REEDER, BRENNAN T \$119.76 - RUTISHAUSER, BRADY J \$6,844.24 - STALLINGS, MARC \$127.09 - STAMBERGER, TRENT M \$680.00 - STUART, ERICA S \$4,454.22 - THULEN, CLINT M \$40,320.00 - TODD, CHAD M \$661.55 - TOLLEY, NATHAN F \$7,054.94 - TRUCKENBROD, KYLE J \$17.56 - TUCKER JR, RANDY D \$1,031.05 - WEILAND, WALTER R \$945.92 - WEST, GARY D

\$639.87 - WILLOUGHBY, ASHLEY N \$7,173.40 - TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$2,956,941.80.

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY: A.R.S. \$14,447.54 - AA AMERICAN LOCKSMITH, IN \$12,199.56 - ARCHER DANIELS MIDLAND CO \$114,811.23 - ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$8,969.79 - ADVANCED ENGINEERING ASSO \$63,485.02 - AEP ENERGY \$54,151.70 - AIRGAS USA, LLC \$3,731.05 - AL'S LAWN SERVICE \$2,950.00 - ALAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROUCT \$2,935.71 - ALBRECHT WELL DRILLING IN \$6,864.42 - ALEXIS FIRE EQUIPMENT \$9,730.40 - APPLE PRESS \$3,986.15 - ARAMARK/AUCA CHICAGO MC L \$5,206.17 - ASSOCIATED TECHNICAL SERV \$2,809.30 - AT&T MOBILITY \$13,820.67 - Attorneys' Title Guaranty \$10,711.00 - AXON ENTERPRISES INC \$13,437.55 - BADGER METER INC \$2,640.00 - BARBECK COMMUNICATIONS \$56,673.41 - BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD \$700,799.28 - BROWNLEE DATA SYSTEMS \$5,700.00 - BONNELL INDUSTRIES INC \$71,036.19 - BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC \$3,900.60 - BRANIFF COMM. INC \$7,320.00 - BRENNTAG MID-SOUTH INC \$6,226.50 - CARGILL SALT INC \$33,407.66 - CARRIAGE HOUSE ELECTRIC \$75,769.74 - CARUS LLC \$28,083.67 - COMMUNITY FIRST NATIONAL \$18,317.85 - CHAMLIN & ASSOC \$3,144.00 - MENDOTA AREA CHAMBER OF C \$19,233.00 - CHASE CARD SERVICES \$2,617.23 - CHASTAIN & ASSOCIATES LLC \$13,811.44 - CITY OF MENDOTA ECONOMIC \$4,954.41 - CITY OF MENDOTA/WATER DEP \$495,261.64 - CITY OF MENDOTA/GENERAL F \$174,491.51 - CITY OF MENDOTA-HEALTH \$10,135.57 - MENDOTA CIVIC CENTER \$15,520.00 - 32625 S ROUTE 53 LLC \$23,000.00 - CLEGG-PERKINS ELECTRIC \$11,574.58 - LA SALLE COUNTY COLLECTOR \$14,280.50 - COMCAST \$6,413.84 - COMED \$65,449.06 - COMPLETE INTEGRATION & SV \$13,737.50 - TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT REV \$4,874.61 - COMMERCIAL MECHANICAL SER \$10,556.40 - NORTHERN PARTNERS COOP \$64,039.63 - CRS INC \$3,155.00 - DEL MONTE \$53,652.51 - DELL MARKETING LP \$11,879.91 - DEUCHLER ENGINEERING CORP \$630,993.16 - STEPHENITCO DO IT BEST HA \$9,133.47 - DOORS UNLIMITED \$8,296.80 - IDPH VITAL RECORDS \$4,204.00 - DIRTY DAWGS GROOMING \$15,000.00 - DRYDON EQUIPMENT \$81,932.40 - DTN CORPORATION \$5,364.00 - DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICE \$200,458.99 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROU \$28,256.14 - THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT \$6,263.60 - EKANA NURSERIES \$3,161.00 - ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RES \$2,900.00 - EUREKA SAVINGS \$420,000.00 - CONSTELLATION NEW ENERGY \$32,880.61 - FEHR GRAHAM \$52,058.50 -FERGUSON WATERWORKS #2516 \$6,363.06 - FICEK ELECTRIC & COMMUNIC \$2,524.76 - FIRE PENSION FUND \$50,616.88 - FIRST STATE BANK \$856,534.00 - GENERAL CODE \$2,617.12 - GETZ FIRE EQUIPMENT \$7,133.35 - GRAVES HUME PUBLIC LIBRAR \$31,128.75 - FRONTIER \$22,548.54 - GUILFOYLE LAW FIRM \$19,076.00 - HACH COMPANY \$4,268.33 - H.C. DETAILING \$6,000.00 - CORE & MAIN LP \$3,225.54 - HFS BUREAU OF FISCAL OPER \$5,947.82 - HI-VIZ INC \$5,590.50 - HYDRO-KINETICS \$4,746.96 - iFIBER \$7,200.00 - DINGES FIRE COMPANY \$15,781.93 - ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PR \$17,540.00 - ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL

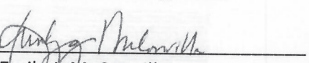
INSURA \$230,380.00 - ILL MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT \$176,980.49 - ILLINOIS PUBLIC RISK FUND \$238,462.00 - ILLINOIS PUBLIC SAFETY AG \$2,934.00 - IRS \$127,823.18 - ISPAN \$2,934.00 - ILLINOIS VALLEY COMM COLL \$64,024.87 - ILLINOIS VALLEY REGIONAL \$142,209.00 - JC'S HEADQUARTERS \$10,000.00 - JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL \$8,995.97 - JESSICA MARTIN \$3,059.22 - KITTILSON'S GARAGE \$8,214.98 - KLEIN, THORPE & JENKINS L \$33,664.45 - LAFARGE WESTERN OF UI \$5,033.80 - LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP \$27,750.00 - LOCIS \$4,920.00 - LASALLE COUNTY TREASURER \$94,882.76 - MACQUEEN EMERGENCY \$13,898.00 - MARTIN EQUIPMENT OF ILLIN \$5,412.34 - MCLEAN COUNTY ASPHALT CO \$8,087.66 - BOB MEINHART ESTATE \$33,375.00 - MENARDS-PERU \$2,940.44 - MENDOTA REPORTER \$8,387.35 - MET LIFE GROUP BENEFITS \$29,280.29 - MENDOTA FIRE DEPT \$3,000.00 - MENDOTA GRADE SCHOOL \$103,066.30 - MENDOTA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCH \$329,841.96 - MIDWEST METER INC \$10,408.10 - MWM CONSULTING ROUP, INC \$4,775.00 - NORTH CENTRAL IL ECONOMIC \$9,610.00 - LASALLE PUBLISHING CO \$8,282.96 - NORTHERN ILLINOIS AMB. BI \$17,504.09 - NICOR GAS \$22,009.34 - O'REILLY AUTO PARTS \$3,808.71 - OSF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH \$5,792.00 - OTTERBACH EXCAVATING \$11,500.00 - OVIVO USA, LLC \$85,275.00 - PATTERSON TRUCK REPAIR IN \$9,716.97 - PERFORMANCE CONSTRUCTION \$310,019.20 - PHELPS THE UNIFORM PEOPLE \$8,237.35 - POINTCORE HTM \$2,567.80 - POHL'S OFFICE SUPPLY \$5,461.27 - U.S. POSTMASTER \$18,950.76 - POLICE PENSION FUND \$325,052.00 - PRESCOTT BROTHERS \$30,371.40 - GARY PETERLIN LLC \$4,500.00 - R.P. LUMBER COMPANY INC \$2,747.68 - RAY O'HERRON CO. INC \$6,112.99 - REPUBLIC SERVICES \$511,320.52 - RITCHIE BROS INC \$78,295.00 - SCHIMMER INC \$2,994.88 - SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO \$5,412.94 - SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COL \$5,617.20 - SKI CONTRACTING CORP. \$72,007.64 - SMB DATA NETWORKS INC \$27,843.89 - SMITH ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS \$6,003.87 - SOLENIS \$9,945.00 - SPYGLASS GROUP INC \$3,162.26 - STANDARD EQUIPMENT CO. \$3,805.82 - HOME DEPOT PRO INSTITUTIO \$5,536.41 - LINDA SWANSON/HEAD HUNTER \$9,000.00 - SYNDEO NETWORKS, INC. \$3,093.36 - TARGET SOLUTIONS LEARNING \$5,039.45 - TEST INC \$24,528.00 - TESTING SERVICE CORPORATI \$18,419.00 - JACOB & KLEIN, LTD \$52,015.19 - MOORE TIRE \$9,625.51 - MENDOTA TOWNSHIP \$3,000.00 - U.S. FOOD SERVICE-STREATO \$2,900.08 - UNIVERSAL ASPHALT & EXCAV \$759,080.00 - UTILITY EQUIPMENT COMPANY \$13,309.52 - UNIVAR CHICAGO PPS \$3,009.60 - USA BLUE BOOK \$9,201.51 - US ECOLOGY \$108,173.87 - UNIVAR USA INC \$4,882.50 - VISA \$17,586.76 - VISA \$30,512.63 - VISION SERVICE PLAN (IL) \$5,269.64 - WALTER BROS., INC \$13,887.16 - MIKE & CATHERINE WASMER \$25,235.00 - WESTCLOX STUDIO INC \$2,500.00 - WESTERN SAND & GRAVEL \$14,885.74 - WESTERN AGGREGATES LLC \$2,624.77 - WHITTAKER CONST & EXCAVAT \$430,234.23 - WIXOM FARMS \$28,405.48 - WTH TECHNOLOGY INC \$5,337.65 - WALTER W. TUNK III \$16,833.50 - MENDOTA AREA YMCA \$6,000.00 - All other Disbursements Less Than (2500) \$167,594.60 - TOTAL VENDORS: \$10,092,041.57.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION					
	(01) GENERAL FUND	(02) 2% FIRE FUND	(03) STATE DRUG FUND	(08) FIRE DEPT FUND	(09) POLICE DEPT FUND
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$1,550,061.00	\$22,734.27	\$36,914.33	\$41,683.02	\$7,683.50
Revenues	\$6,806,042.00	\$12,442.20	\$541,859.00	\$20,312.86	\$5,518.97
Expenditures	\$6,259,141.00	\$10,559.65	\$134,076.26	\$14,252.50	\$4,008.21
Other Fin. Sources	\$150,657.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,247,619.00	\$24,616.82	\$444,697.07	\$47,743.38	\$9,194.26
	(14) DUI FUND	(15) MOTOR FUEL TAX	(20) TIF DIST. I	(27) TIF VII IND. PK. A	(28) TIF VII IND. PK. B
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$25,487.45	\$418,375.09	\$1,386,237.52	\$655,431.00	\$3,222.74
Revenues	\$8,042.08	\$508,981.35	\$1,087,633.20	\$205,062.51	\$4.76
Expenditures	\$2,452.00	\$363,282.79	\$904,032.98	\$22,364.94	\$0.00
Other Fin. Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$623,663.84	\$0.00	\$0.00
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$439,810.94	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance	\$31,077.53	\$564,073.65	\$1,743,126.64	\$836,509.57	\$3,227.50
	TIF 2017A SRWP	TIF 2017B ADS	LASALLE CO VEHICLE	2006 BOND ISSUE	WATER FUND
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$31,190.01CR	\$338,612.75CR	\$983.10CR	\$25,854.68CR	\$8,399,378.31
Revenues	\$179.91	\$344,541.47	\$541.00	\$149,804.00	\$1,610,634.70
Expenditures	\$7,344.68	\$235,325.78	\$0.00	\$146,950.00	\$920,435.50
Other Fin. Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.04
Uses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$328,803.95
Ending Fund Balance	\$39,645.78CR	\$229,397.06CR	\$442.10CR	\$23,000.68CR	\$8,760,773.60
	(52) SEWER FUND	(54) CIVIC CENTER	(68) CAPITAL EQUIP FUND	(71) FIRE PENSION FUND	(72) POLICE PENSION FUND
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$2,908,829.81	\$164,963.90CR	\$506,766.39	\$3,345,511.32	\$7,048,170.95
Revenues	\$1,522,003.48	\$35,034.94	\$66,030.95	\$328,719.00	\$954,763.43
Expenditures	\$865,192.86	\$129,579.17	\$7,434.00	\$165,447.00	\$659,638.00
Other Fin. Sources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,301.13	\$550,382.22	\$1,207,185.00
Uses	\$82,147.44	\$4,603.50	\$0.00	\$3,618.00	\$0.00
Ending Fund Balance	\$3,483,492.99	\$264,111.63CR	\$566,664.47	\$4,055,547.54	\$8,550,481.38
	(80) ECONOMIC DEV. FUND				
Beg. Fund Balance					
Retained Earnings	\$1,941,649.99				
Revenues	\$65,739.06				
Expenditures	\$40,000.00				
Other Fin. Sources	\$130,609.70				
Uses	\$0.00				
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,097,998.75				

The aforewritten is a true and correct statement of the various City funds of the City of Mendota, Illinois for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2021, and an accurate state of the Treasury as of April 30, 2021.


Heath Davis, Treasurer

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand as said City Clerk and affixed hereto the Corporate Seal of the said City of Mendota, County of LaSalle, State of Illinois, this 18th day of January, 2022.


Emily J. McConville
City of Mendota

No. 0104
(Jan. 26, 2022)

Classified Marketplace

FREE!

Sell your household items for free.

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
THIRTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LASALLE COUNTY,
OTTAWA, IL
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE)
MATTER)No.
OF THE)2022
ESTATE)PR
OF)000001
CAROL J.)
PIWONSKI,)
DECEASED.)
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to
creditors of the death
of Carol J. Piwonski,
of Peru, Illinois.
Letters of Office were
issued on January
5, 2022, to Crystal
Loughran, of Peru, IL,
as INDEPENDENT
REPRESENTATIVE,
whose Attorneys
of record are
SCHWEICKERT LAW
GROUP, LLC, 2101

MARQUETTE ROAD,
PERU, IL 61354.
Claims against the
estate may be e-filed
in the Office of the
Circuit Clerk, Probate
Division, Downtown
County Courthouse,
119 W. Madison Street,
Ottawa, IL 61350, or
with the Representative,
or both, within 6 months
from the date of the
first publication of this
Notice. If the claim
notice is personally
mailed or delivered to
a creditor of the above
estate, the claim must
be filed in the above
entitled cause within 3
months from the date
of mailing or delivery,
whichever is later. Any
claims not filed within
the above periods are
barred.
E-filing is now
mandatory for
documents in civil
cases with limited

exceptions. To e-file,
you must first create an
account with an e-filing
service provider. Visit
<https://efile.illinoiscorts.gov/service-providers>.
htm to learn more and
to select a service
provider. If you need
additional help or
have trouble e-filing,
visit <https://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.
Copies of a claim filed
with the Clerk must be
mailed or delivered to
the Representative and
to the Attorney within 10
days after it has been
filed.
The estate will be
administered without
court supervision,
unless under Section
5/28-4 of the Probate
Act (Ill. Compiled
Stat. 1992, Ch. 758,
par. 5/28-4) any
interested person
terminates independent
administration at any
time by mailing or
delivering a petition to
terminate to the Circuit
Clerk.
Dated: January 11,
2022
Greg Vaccaro
LaSalle County Circuit
Clerk
Ottawa, IL 61350
No. 0103 (Jan. 19, 26,
Feb. 2, 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.”
**203
HELP WANTED**
Public Notice is hereby
given that on January 4,

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, con-
ducting and transacting
the business known as
Vermillion River Tender
Treats located at 1425
North 17th Road Stre-
ator, IL 61364.
Dated: January 4, 2022.
George M. Lukach Ap-
plicant.
No. 0102
(Jan. 12, 19 and 26,
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.”

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

Furman Lawn Care
and Tree Service.
Mowing, Hedge
Trimming, Painting,
Interior and Exterior.
Gutter Cleaning,
Storm Damage Clean
up, Spring and Fall
and Much More. In
Business Since 1999.
Call Jeremy Furman
815-761-9619. Please
Leave Message Will
Return Call ASAP. Fully
Insured. (TFN)

JNJ JUMPERS Indoor/
Outdoor Bounce House
Rentals Available Year
Round. Please Call
815-784-4256 For
Availability or Visit us
on Facebook.

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

verify the validity of the
license of any facility
before placing a child in
it's care.

203 HELP WANTED

EXPERIENCED
Housekeeper Wanted.
References Required.
(815) 561-0021
(02/02/2022)

ASHTON - Bartenders
and Waitresses
Needed, Apply in
Person at Ralphie and
Lulu's. 812 Main Street
in Ashton or call 815-
453-2103. (TFN)

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

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Breaking up my electric
train sets for sale. 3 HO
Gauge includes a Coca-
Cola 2004 Holiday
Edition. 3 0-27 gauge
includes Coca-Cola
Limited Edition. Please
call (815) 562-2582 and

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

leave a message.
BUNDLED Newspaper
-\$3 per Bundle. End
Roll- Cost Depends on
Weight of Roll. Available
Monday-Friday 8AM-
NOON ONLY. SEE
RECEPTIONIST AT
FRONT COUNTER
Rochelle News-Leader.

TABLE and 6-Chairs
with leaf. \$180 OBO
779-221-4434. (01-26-
22)

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES

Free Kittens to give
away to good homes.
Very friendly and good
mousers. Call Mike at
815-993-2234 (01-26-
22)

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Large 2 bedroom
Northside of Rochelle.
FREE heat and water.
NO PETS! Available
Now at \$750/month.
Security Deposit,
Credit Report, and Job
Verification needed.
Call (815) 919-9015

INFORMATION

Office Hours:
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday
Friday)
Phone:
815-539-9396
Fax:
815-539-7862
Email:
jgriffith@mendotareporter.com
Address:
703 Illinois Ave., Mendota
Mail:
P.O. Box 300
Mendota IL 61342-0300

DEADLINES:

- Mondays at 10 a.m. to start in Wednesday Mendota Reporter
- Thursdays at 5 p.m. to start in Monday Money Saver

All classified marketplace
line ads will appear in
the following 7 print
publications and on 5 high-
traffic newspaper websites:
• Rochelle News-Leader •
Ogle County Life • Rochelle
Shopping News • Ashton
Gazette • Amboy News
• Mendota Reporter •
Mendota Money Saver

**Call for pricing that starts
at \$32.99 for private
party ads and \$44.60 for
commercial business ads
and \$15.99 for garage
sale ads.**

DISCLAIMER:

If your advertisement
appears incorrectly, notify
us immediately. We will not
be responsible for more than
one incorrect insertion, and
will only credit customer for
one insertion.

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

APARTMENTS FOR RENT: MENDOTA

1 & 2 Bedrooms,
Appliances, A/C.
779-201-0532
815-498-2262.

MENDOTA

Well-maintained,
1, 2 & 3 bedroom
apartments, various
price ranges. All with
appliances included.
Some with utilities
included. No pets.
Security deposit and
lease required.
815-539-3747.

203 HELP WANTED

Mendota High School is accepting applications for a paraprofessional.

Send resume with professional refer-
ences and copy of ISBE license and/or
college transcript to Mrs. Denise Augh-
enbaugh, Principal, Mendota High School,
2300 West Main Street,
Mendota, IL. 61342.
Email may be submitted to
daughenbaugh@mendotahs.org.

10112021

Mendota District #289 is looking for a Part-time Custodian Substitute and a Resource Paraprofessional for Northbrook School.

If interested, please call 815-539-7631
for more information or stop by and fill
out an application in the
District Office
at 1806 Guiles Ave, Mendota, IL 61342.

01242022

Looking for Class A CDL FULL- TIME and PART- TIME TRUCK DRIVER to haul farm commodities.

Call Roger
Jameson at
815-252-8576.

04222020

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT 4x4



2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT 4x4, 41K miles, GM Certified, 1-owner, Leather,
Interior, Heated Seats, Running Boards, Tonneau Cover, White and More!

\$38,900

	CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty • 24/7 Roadside Assistance • 172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process • 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-Year/24,000-Mile Standard CPO Maintenance Plan • 12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty 		

2020 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, LTZ,
4x4, 44K miles, 1-owner, Silver..\$46,500

2019 Chevy Crew Cab LT Z71 4x4,
1-Owner, 63K miles, Gray.....\$41,900

2019 Chevy Colorado 2WD, Ext Cab,
WT, 48K miles, White.....\$24,500

2017 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LT 4x4,
Leather, Z71, Gas, 72K miles, New
Tires, Gray.....\$44,900

2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT 4x4, Leather,
1-Owner, 41K miles, White.....\$38,900

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2016 Chevy K-3500 Crew Cab Long Box
Diesel, 4x4, Z71, Leather, Gray\$43,900

2014 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, 4X4, Z71,
LT, 99K Miles, Red.....\$26,900

2014 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4X4,
141K Miles, Blue Granite.....\$24,900

2013 Chevy Equinox FWD, LTZ, 4-CYL,
Tan\$12,900

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GMF Financing or Leasing

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SUBLETTE, IL**
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1-800-227-5203

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“EVERY MORNING MY
HUMAN SHAVES OFF
HIS FACE FUR, HE’S
FUNNY LIKE THAT.”

-TUCK
adopted 05-04-11

A PERSON
IS THE BEST
THING TO HAPPEN
TO A SHELTER PET



adopt

theshelterpetproject.org



REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE



2517 Woods St., West Brooklyn
\$117,000

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.



2846 IL. Route 30 Hwy., Compton
\$65,000

Lots of potential for this one story home located on Route 30 North of Compton. Call for a showing. McConville Realty.

ENJOY THE WEEKEND CHEERING YOUR TEAM ON DURING THE NFL PLAYOFFS



1605 Lakeview Dr., Mendota
\$199,900

Lake neighborhood, corner lot, Florida room. 3 spacious bedrooms with master bath and walk in closet. 2 1/2 baths. Basement needs some TLC but is finished. 1s floor laundry, only dryer stays. 2 car attached garage. Cement parking pad. Cement patio. Call for a showing.

McConville

REALTY & AUCTIONEERING

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker

612 S. Main St., Mendota • 815-539-5673

E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com

mcconvillerealtymendota@gmail.com

Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com

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

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker
815-910-5673

Marty McConville, Broker
815-200-2233

Richard McConville,
Broker 815-539-5673
Sharon Kimrey, Broker
815-343-3600

Melody Nanzer, Broker
815-228-2842

Ryan Coss, Broker
815-830-8636

FEATURE HOME



126 W. DIVISION ST., AMBOY \$158,000

This beautiful ranch style home is all ready for you to move into! Located on a large corner lot. You will be amazed how much bigger it is once inside. Features include: 3 bedrooms, possible one in basement, 2 baths, dining room, kitchen with breakfast bar, stools and all appliances stay, oak hardwood floors, sunken great room with wood burner stove, office area, concrete drive, 2 car detached drive, shed, back fenced in yard for privacy, covered porch and a patio area for entertaining. Call today for a showing!

Erbes Realty LLC
1922 Tower Rd., Sublette
815-535-6295

Rebecca McPheeters, Designated Managing Broker

**607 Sixth St.,
Mendota
(815) 539-6635**

Town & Country Realty

www.tcrealtysales.net
Evening Phone Numbers

Becky McPheeters, Designated Managing Broker
708-220-3338

Rita Lilja

815-539-9255

Jami Bauer, Broker

815-993-7751

Lori Munson, Broker

815-228-4852



Helping people find homes since 1983.



Homestead REALTY

Helping people find homes since 1983.

PHONE (815) 539-3811

1316 Lakewood Plaza
Rte. 251 N. • Mendota

Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker
Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101



582 US Route 52, Sublette
\$343,900

Unique home with lots of spacious room to enjoy! Features include: 3.47 acre's of gorgeous land, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, loft area for entertaining, family room in basement and bath room attached garage, large living room with a fireplace, deck out front, and outbuilding for more storage. Lots of storage space throughout and work shop off garage.



635 East Main St., Amboy
\$179,500

Beautiful Brick, two story Craftsman home on historic East Main Street in Amboy. Surrounded by lovely homes and nature on 2.5 acre on the edge of farm country. Screened in front porch. Plenty of natural light in every room. Gorgeous woodwork! Original chandeliers and wall scones in huge living room with wood burning fireplace. French doors to living room and dining room for privacy. Spacious foyer with one oak stairway to 5 bedrooms on second floor. Original wavy glass in 4 over 4 windows, hardwood floors throughout. New bathroom on first floor with marble top vanity and subway tile shower. Laundry area on main floor with washer and dryer included. Full basement accessible from kitchen or rear door which could be a sixth bedroom or game room with second laundry hook up and lots of storage including a half bath. Two AC units, one for upstairs and one for main floor. Two car detached garage and huge fenced backyard. Must see this beauty before it is gone! Call today for a showing.



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!



15 Abballee Way
MENDOTA

Building lot by the golf course could be your new homesite!!!



Retail Building!!!
703 Washington Street
MENDOTA

Downtown MENDOTA, GREAT LOCATION!!



1510 Guiles Avenue
MENDOTA

PENDING!!!!



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.



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

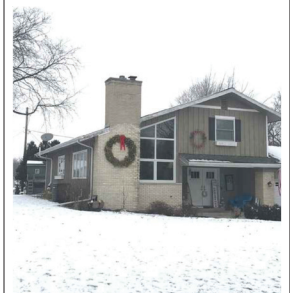
Build your dream home on these 4 lots with another lot available on Commercial to add to the Milton Street lots. Garage located on one lot. * Same lot owner for the lot on Commercial 02-15-22-179-010 RE taxes \$61.24 Buy all 5. Call today for a showing! This includes for all 5 lots!

Looking for a Close Vacation Spot? Contact Us About Woodhaven Lakes!



804 Indiana Avenue
MENDOTA

2 Unit. Rent one, live in the other!!!



1500 Meriden Street
MENDOTA

PENDING!!