

"I want to come back home; this is my place and the residents of Mendota are my people. I love this town."
—Sweet Corn Festival Queen Perris Stachlewitz



Perris Stachlewitz is astonished that the crown is being placed on her head by 2020 Queen Anna Bokus after it was announced that Stachlewitz was the 2021 Queen during the Sweet Corn Festival Pageant on Aug. 13. (Reporter photo)

Hometown Girl

Community service is a way of life for '21 Sweet Corn Queen Stachlewitz

By **BONNIE MORRIS**
Editor

MENDOTA – Growing up in Mendota, Perris Stachlewitz had dreamed of being in the Sweet Corn Festival Queen Pageant one day, but she never expected to win the crown. Now that she has won the role of 2021 Queen, Stachlewitz looks forward to sharing her love for Mendota and plans to serve her community in a variety of new ways.

The daughter of Rusty and Jenny Stachlewitz, each year Perris had watched the pageant with her grandma, Deb Stachlewitz. "I always wanted to be one of the beautiful girls on the stage. It was incredible to finally be there, and then getting the crown was unforeseen and insane," Perris said a week after winning.

A 2021 graduate of Mendota High School, Perris was very active in music, sports and student government as well as the Interact Club during her first three years of high school. But when the pandemic hit toward the end of her junior year, schools shifted to remote learning and everything changed. By the start of senior year last fall, MHS had taken the necessary steps to hold in-person classes, but Perris admitted that she felt uncertain about the success of returning to classrooms at that time.

"I thought it was going to be a struggle going back to school last fall – I thought we would probably end up having to quarantine," she recalled. "But Mendota High



Perris Stachlewitz answers the question posed to her by Jan Phalen during the Queen Pageant. (Reporter photo)

School did a phenomenal job of taking precautions and that didn't end up happening, and I also got to participate in some extra-curricular activities during the year, which was great."

Perris is continuing her education at Illinois Valley Community College and has already acquired some credits through dual enrollment courses she took in high school. She then plans to transfer to Illinois State University and earn a degree in Natural Resources with specializations in Biology, Environmental Science and Conservation. In the future, she hopes to work as a conservation biologist.

Perris said she has always loved animals – even bugs – and her interest in conservation began at a young age. "I've done a lot of kayaking and hiking and always enjoyed the beauty

of nature, the ecosystem and I feel we really need to preserve them for us and for the creatures that call the outdoors home," she said. "I am very concerned about the environment. One of my big interests is soil conservation and pesticide use."

Perris noted that her father has been a great role model in choosing a career. "He always told me that my choice of career path should not be determined by how much money you make but by doing something you love," she said.

Another important role model for Perris has been her grandmother, who taught her not only how to cook and sew, but also to have confidence, to be kind and to give back. "I love how dedicated my family is to this community."

See Queen, Page A5

Craft beer interest leads to cousins starting 1-acre hop farm in Amboy

Hop farms are a rarity in Illinois

By **TAMMIE SLOUP**
FarmWeek

AMBOY – Brian Dallam and Anthony Welty are playing the long game when it comes to their hopyard.

Luckily, the cousins love a challenge.

Since hop farms are relatively new to Illinois, their growing venture that started with an idea in 2016 and led to construction of a 1-acre hopyard in Amboy the following year was a risk.

Especially since the two didn't know much about growing hops. In fact, when Welty, a homebrewer, posed the idea to Dallam, a lifelong farmer, at an annual party, Dallam replied: "What are hops?"

"I was thinking about the potential in our area for craft beer and the whole ecosystem around that," Welty said. "And joining the ag industry, ... I kind of thought of it from that perspective."

By spring, they were putting holes in the ground, driving in posts and building the trellis system.

What they deemed "happstance" led to their unique trellis system and ultimately their business' name: Live Wire Hops. A local utility company was replacing electrical poles, and knowing they were on a shoestring budget, approached the com-

See Hops, Page A5



Cousins Brian Dallam and Anthony Welty at their 1-acre hopyard in Amboy. (Photo by Tammie Sloup)

State school board gets pushback on mask mandate

By **PETER HANCOCK**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – A capacity crowd packed into the Illinois State Board of Education room last week as many more stood outside the building to protest the state's new indoor mask mandate in all public and nonpublic schools.

"I'm so tired of hearing how resilient our kids are. Resilience is something you choose," said Ruby Johnson, a mother of seven children from New Lenox. "Our kids did not choose to be masked all day, unable to see their friends or teachers smile at them, to have to COVID test to stay in school, to be burdened

with the idea that they carry an invisible disease that they could make their friends sick with."

Gov. JB Pritzker issued the mask mandate in an executive order Aug. 4, shortly after the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued updated guidelines for schools in response to a surge in the highly contagious delta variant of COVID-19. Those guidelines urge "universal indoor masking" by all students over the age of 2, staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.

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



LOCAL AND AREA



Perris Stachlewitz, this year's Sweet Corn Festival Queen, left, attended the Aug. 17 meeting of the Rotary Club. Also reporting at the meeting were Thomas Brooks, right, District 6420 Assistant Governor, and David Bills, District 6420 Governor. (Photo contributed)

Rotary welcomes new Mendota SCF Queen

MENDOTA – The 2021 Sweet Corn Festival Queen, Perris Stachlewitz attended the Aug. 17 Mendota Rotary Club meeting.

Stachlewitz, who was sponsored in the pageant by the Rotary Club, shared her experiences at the Sweet Corn Festival. She is also the outgoing president of the Interact Club at Mendota High School.

In other business, David Bills, Rotary District 6420 Governor from the Rotary

Rivers Club at Port Byron, gave his annual report of the District. He stressed that each club should concentrate on membership.

Thomas Brooks, Rotary Assistant Governor, gave remarks on the three clubs he represents.

Melissa Sallee was inducted as a new member.

The next meeting of the Mendota Rotary will take place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 7 at El Zarape Restaurant.

OSF HealthCare has volunteer opportunities

MENDOTA - OSF HealthCare has volunteer opportunities in Mendota, Ottawa and Streator. Are you someone who wants to help others? They would love to talk with you and discuss some unique and flexible opportunities to volunteer; to become an extension of their community of caregivers.

OSF's volunteer teams include dedicated individuals who bring a personal touch to helping comfort patients and visitors directly or indirectly. Volunteers are of a wide variety of ages and backgrounds. All of these passions and skills bring the greatest care and love to OSF's patients, families and visitors. Their volunteers are respected as true Mission Partners, an important part of the whole health care team.

Volunteers are needed weekdays for four-hour shifts; po-

See OSF, Page A4

MENDOTA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Winnie's Gaming Parlor

Winnie's Gaming Parlor, right, was welcomed to Mendota by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors. Left to right, are Lee Stocking, Ambassador; Shelby Weide, Chamber President/CEO; Chad Wendelken, owner; and Christin Atherton, Ambassador. Winnie's is located at 2104-D Main St., Mendota. Hours are 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday; and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday. Winnie's will have its grand opening celebration on Saturday, Aug. 28. There will be a taco truck, live music and giveaways during the celebration. (Reporter photo)



Chamlin & Associates

Chamlin & Associates was welcomed to Mendota by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce. Holding the ribbon are Chamber Ambassadors Lee Stocking, left, and Christin Atherton. Preparing to cut the ribbon is Andy Washelesky, while Shelby Weide, Chamber President/CEO presents a \$2 bill. Back row, left to right, are Emily Byrne, Michael Perry, Ryan Hansen, Mike Washelesky, Dean Chalkey, city clerk Emily McConville, city employee Tim Kimrey and Jim Clinard. Chamlin and Associates was founded in 1952 and next year will mark its 70th year in business. Chamlin serves numerous communities in the Mendota area with practical and sound engineering and surveying services. Offices are located in Mendota, Peru, Ottawa and Morris. With a staff of nearly 60 employees, consisting of engineers, surveyors, technicians, geotechnical & GIS specialist, inspectors and administrative support personnel, Chamlin is here to support all of your engineering and surveying needs. The Mendota office is located at 903 Main St. (Reporter photo)

Sweet Corn Fest Food Contest winners get creative with corn

MENDOTA - The 2021 Sweet Corn Festival Food Contest winners have been announced by the Mendota Chamber of Commerce. Sponsored by Nightengale's Thrift Shop, each of the contest categories used corn as a main ingredient.

The 15th Annual Food Contest winners include:

Grand Prize: Kristi Carroll - Salt Carmel Sweet Corn Ice Cream; **Runner Up:** Margaret Schlesinger - Entirely too Rich Cornbread. **Best Presentation:** Robin Tobin - Mexican Corn.

Most Creative: Amanda Coss - Sweet Corn Custard Pie with Corn and Ginger Lemonade.

Queen's Choice: Tracy Cooper - Crack Corn & Chicken Casserole; **Honorable Mention:** Harrison Coss - Sweet Corn Glass.

SCF Parade winners announced

MENDOTA - Winners in the 2021 Sweet Corn Festival Parade, which took place on Aug. 15, have been announced by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce. The winners in each division include:

Commercial Division - 1st Cornerstone Dentures of Mendota; 2nd GES Sound-Gary Swanson's Sound of Princeton; 3rd Jurassic Bark Mobile Grooming of Mendota.

Musical Units - 1st Mendota High School Marching Trojans.

Best Use of Sweet Corn Theme - 1st Walter Bros Plumbing, Heating & Cooling of Mendota; 2nd Cornerstone Dentures of Mendota.

Organization Division - 1st Mendota High School Cheerleaders; 2nd Ballet Folklorico De Colores; 3rd Mendota YMCA.

Antique Vehicle - 1st 1930 Ford Model A Coupe Deluxe owned by John Kehoe of Mendota; 2nd 1930 Truck Model A Truck owned by John Noble of Mendota; 3rd 1929 Tudor Ford Model A Sedan owned by John Kehoe of Mendota.

See PARADE, Page A3

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OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

Patricia A. (Frizol) Bieser

MENDOTA - Patricia A. (Frizol) Bieser, 94, of Mendota passed away Aug. 17, 2021 at Heritage Health, Mendota.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 27 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mendota with Rev. Ken Gibson officiating. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until time of services. Following interment at Restland Cemetery in Mendota, the family will host a dinner at the VFW Hall, 610 6th St., Mendota. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Pat was born April 15, 1927 at People's Hospital in Peru to Victor and Thelma (Magoon) Frizol. She married Donald Bieser on March 31, 1948 at Holy Cross Church, Mendota. He preceded her in death in 2013.

Survivors include her children, Jeri (Sam) Surovy of Danbury, Conn., Linda (Larry) Lindenmier of West Brooklyn, Sarah (Vern) Pfeifer of Paw Paw, Dennis (Deborah) Bieser of Mendota and Joanne (Lou) Lentz of Oakwood Hills; eight grandchildren, Sammy Surovy, Jr., Amanda (Matt) Mertz, Nick (Kayla) Bieser, Pete (Karen) Bieser, Dustin (Amanda) Bieser, Averi (Matt) Richmond, Jamie Lentz and Tyler Lentz; seven great-grandchildren, Ryan and Alex Mertz, Sadie and Odin Bieser, Sullivan and Elodie Bieser, and Holden Bieser; one brother, James Frizol; and one sister, Nancy (Gary) Possley.

She was preceded in death by her husband; one daughter, Jan in 2011; and one grandson, Kyle Lindenmier in 1983.

Pat attended Roosevelt and St. Joseph's schools in Peru before the family moved to Compton and she attended school in West Brooklyn. The family then moved to Mendota where she finished grade school and graduated from Mendota Township High School in 1945. Shortly after graduation, she auditioned for a position in a USO show. She was one of nine women from LaSalle County who were accepted. The women traveled to New York City to rehearse for a musical comedy, "Irene." They then traveled and toured in Germany and Austria, presenting "Irene" to post-World War II occupying troops in the European Theater. She also attended several sessions of the Nuremberg Nazi Criminal War trials. After returning to Mendota, she married Don and they raised six children on the farm north of Mendota. Pat and Don were members of St. John's Lutheran Church. Pat was very involved in several circles and the quilting group. She was also involved in Mendota VFW Auxiliary Post #4079 and was president for two years. She was also County Council President and Assistant VAVS representative to the LaSalle Veteran's Home.

Memorials may be directed to the USO, St. John's Quilting Ministry or Mendota VFW #4079 Auxiliary. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



David F. Fitzgerald

MENDOTA - David Francis Fitzgerald, 64, of Mendota, passed away peacefully in his home on Aug. 21, 2021, surrounded by his loved ones after battling lung cancer. In his final day, his most valued friendships provided him with love and comfort as well.

Graveside services for family and friends will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 27 at Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota with Rev. Sherry Stevenson officiating. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family. A celebration of life and fellowship will follow at the Mendota VFW Post 4079 at 5 p.m.

Dave was born Nov. 24, 1956 in Mendota to Donald and Gertrude (Roemmich) Fitzgerald. He married JoAnn Neuhaufen-Bell on May 26, 1993. She preceded him in death in 2019.

Survivors include his only son, Toby (Jackie) Fitzgerald of Mendota and three "bonus" daughters, Shelly Bell, Joni (Brian) Zinke and Julie (Brian) McConville, all of Mendota; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two brothers, Gary (Janet) Fitzgerald of Shorewood and Danny (Nancy) Fitzgerald of Oglesby; and one sister, Linda (Tom) Weber of Peru.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife; one granddaughter, Taylor; and his parents.

Dave graduated from Mendota High School in 1975. After high school, he worked at Becker Automotive and then at R&R Ford/Mendota Ford for 37 years. After leaving Mendota Ford he worked at Sapp Bros in Peru for three years. He was a member of the Jaycees, Mendota Elks Lodge 1212, Mendota VFW Men's Auxiliary and social member, and Mendota Moose Lodge 714. He donated his time and talents to organizations such as Mendota Historical Society and the Mendota pass, punt and kick program. When not volunteering, he could be found with his video camera at the softball diamonds, soccer fields, volleyball and basketball courts, football field, school plays, school musicals and band concerts recording and cheering for his grandkids, nieces and nephews. He had a love for music, specifically Marshall Tucker, and a lifelong love of baseball, playing pool with his buddies, watching and feeding the animals in his yard and most importantly, spending his days talking about his family and how proud he was of them all.

Any monetary gifts will be donated to all of Fitz's beloved organizations and VITAS Hospice who helped him in his final days. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Bruce A. Smith

MENDOTA - Bruce Alan Smith, 75, died Oct. 25, 2020.

The son of Margaret Huss Smith and J. Marvin Smith, he graduated from Mendota High School in 1962. He attended Iowa Wesleyan College in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa where he played basketball for four years, received a B.A. in education, and earned the nickname "Boris" for his love of Boris Karloff movies.

After graduation, Bruce returned to Mendota and taught in the Maytown and Amboy school districts. He shared his deep love of history with his students, who were primarily in junior high. Despite the popular opinion on 12- to 14-year-olds, Bruce thought children this age were interesting and worthwhile human beings in their own right. He never tired of trying to develop lesson plans and teaching methods that would best reach all of his students. Throughout the 70s and 80s, he spent his summers fishing in Saskatchewan. After leaving teaching, he was able to devote most of his time to hunting, fishing and regaling friends with stories of his outdoor adventures. "Star Wars" came onto the scene and "Boris" became "Darth" and he started a life-long hobby of finding T-shirts that were designed to provoke a reaction. He was active with the Mendota Community Theater. He was especially proud of his work on "The Diary of Anne Frank" and treasured the time he spent with his fellow MCT members.

Bruce particularly enjoyed hunting with black powder rifles, and he shared his expertise by writing for various black powder and hunting magazines. He had been looking forward to the end of COVID restrictions so he could return to fishing in Canada. He is sorely missed by friends and family.

Memorials can be directed to Colonial Williamsburg, colonialwilliamsburg.org or the Second Amendment Foundation, saf.org.



Frederic F. Topel

MENDOTA - Frederic F. Topel, 83, of Mendota entered heaven on Aug. 11, 2021.

A celebration of life will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 26 at Faith Church, 800 Wenzel Road, Peru with Rev. Steve Adamson officiating. Private burial with military honors will be held at a later date. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Fred was born and raised in La Crosse, Wis. to Lawrence and Verna (Spears) Topel. He met Patricia L. Howell in 1958 on a blind date. They were married on Jan. 20, 1960 in Oakland, Calif.

Survivors include his loving wife of Mendota; two daughters, Cheryl (Mike) Sterling of Mendota and Laura Topel of Kirbyville, Mo.; three granddaughters, Rachel (John) Kelley, Nicole Sterling and Alexis (Jake) Haegele; four great-grandchildren, Jaylin, Ian, Caleb and Gabriella; two brothers, Harold Topel of La Crosse, Minn. and Alan Topel of West Salem, Wis.; two sisters-in-law, Mary Topel of Veazie, Maine and Lynn Topel of Clermont, Fla.; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Kenneth, Philip and Robert Topel; and four sisters, Marilyn Hollis, Barbara West, Violet Rediske and Rita Kaiser.

Fred's family moved to Onalaska, Wis. when he was 11 years old. He graduated from Onalaska High School in 1956 where he excelled in football and baseball. While still in high school, he joined the Army National Guard and completed 18 months of service. He then completed six months of an Army program. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served with honor for four years working primarily in communications. Fred and Patricia remained devoted to each other for over 61 years. They were blessed with two daughters and moved to Illinois to be closer to family. After studying communications at a local business school, Fred worked as a terminal manager, dispatcher and truck driver in California, Illinois, Alabama and Oklahoma. He also worked with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations as a communications officer. He retired from Fast Freight where he had worked for many years transporting U.S. mail. A man of strong faith in God, Fred was always active in the church. He served as a deacon, Sunday school superintendent, and lay minister for many years. He loved to spend time with his family, play with the family dogs, go fishing and watch westerns and sports on TV. He continued to play baseball until a shoulder injury forced him to stop. He also loved music and he and his wife regularly sang duets in church and occasional trios with their youngest daughter. Their family enjoyed traveling the country on vacation. He and Patricia especially enjoyed the Ozarks, retiring to the small town of Powersite, just outside of Branson, Mo. Recent health issues led them to move back to Mendota in July 2021.

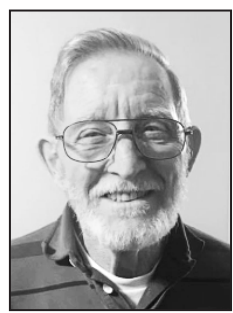
Memorials may be directed to the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Master Gardener virtual program: Big garden projects

LA SALLE - The LaSalle Public Library will virtually host Natalie Martin, Master Gardener, on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 6 p.m. for a unique program. Martin will discuss ways to take on a big garden project such as transitioning a section of your yard, putting in a raised bed or a native prairie patch.

This program is free and open to all. Participants may register online at <https://bit.ly/3g6pREr>.

For more information, please call the LaSalle Library at (815) 223-2341 or e-mail Rachael Blomquist at rblomquist@lasalle.lib.il.us.

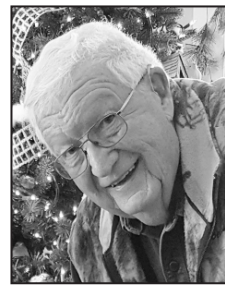


Memorial Services

Celebration of life - Sherman M. Shaw

LA MOILLE - A Celebration of Life for Sherman M. Shaw will be held on Saturday, Aug. 28. A ceremony will take place at Union Cemetery, rural LaMoille beginning at noon. The celebration will follow from 1-4 p.m. at the Shaw Family Pavilion, LaMoille Park.

A light meal will be provided. All are welcome.



See additional
OBITUARY, Page A3

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Artistic Memorials

The Mendota Reporter

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Where is it... in Mendota?

HOW TO ENTER:

If you know where this scene is located in Mendota, write the answer briefly and concisely on a slip of paper and drop it off or mail it to The Mendota Reporter Office. All entries must be received no later than noon on Monday. One correct answer will be drawn each week.

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LAST WEEK'S ANSWER:
Architecture above door at
Starved Rock Wood Products building
Winner - Margaret Schlesinger

Continued from Page A2

sitions vary at each location but include gift shop, escorts, information desk, surgery waiting room and emergency department volunteers.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about the volunteer programs at OSF, please contact Danielle Bourell, Community Outreach Coordinator, at (815) 431-5432.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Hops

Continued from Page A1

pany about repurposing the old poles. Today, the hopyard is lined with about 60 of those poles supporting about 800 hop plants.

"It was pure frugality and resourcefulness," Welty said.

As the craft brewing industry continues to grow in Illinois, local hop farms haven't kept pace. The Pacific Northwest holds 96% of the hops market. But as demand for locally grown food has increased, the trend has influenced locally grown hops.

Illinois has about 40 acres of hop farms, but that pales in comparison to Michigan, which has more than 800 acres.

One of the challenges of embarking on producing a specialty crop is the unproven market in Illinois.

Grant McCarty, local foods and small farms educator with the University of Illinois Extension in Rockford, said interest in hop production education has trended downward since 2017. New hop farmers faced expensive upfront costs and struggled to find a consistent roster of customers.

"The ones that have seen success are aware of the market and have buyers (lined up)," McCarty said.

Michigan has seen greater success as there was a focus on hops education early on — Michigan State University Extension has been proactive for years with research and guiding a growers association forward.

Dallam and Welty are excited to be a small part of the niche product, even if the venture requires constant TLC.

Dallam refers to the hops growing cycle as a "six-month arm wrestling match." "Timing is everything," Dallam said. "When the hops break dormancy in early April to mid-April to reaching the 18- to 20-foot mark will happen in 50 days."

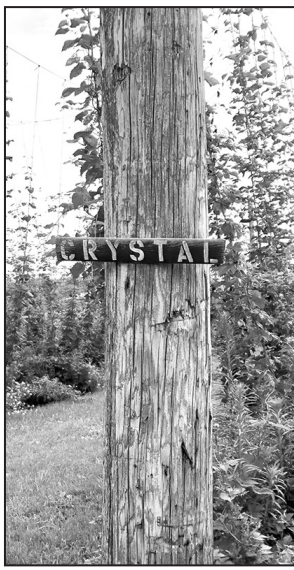
"They're monsters," Welty said, adding hop plants are the fastest growing plants in the world behind bamboo, growing as much as 6 to 12 vertical inches in a day.

Growers need to be on their game with their nutrient programs, irrigation system and getting the strings put in time to train the plants.

"Back to the nutrients and fertilizer, everything has to be timed out correctly, and if you're too slow or too late on something, the plants aren't going to wait for you, they're taking off," Dallam said. "There isn't a plant on our line of latitude that goes any faster. It's incredible."

During harvest in late August, they recruit help to cut the plants down, which entails cutting the plant at the bottom and then cutting the string at the top.

The leaves and cones are then stripped off, and the cones, which are picked at



Asign marks the location of the Crystal hops, which are versatile due to low alpha and mild notes of herbal, earthiness, and citrus. The hopyard sits on what was once a cattle pasture and area for 4-H projects. (Photo by Tammie Sloup)

75% moisture, have to be dried before Welty and Dallam take them to a Wisconsin plant where they're turned into pellets. Those are then sold in 4-ounce to 11-pound bags.

The growers are after the cone, in which is a little round green ball stuffed with lupulin — the yellow oily powder that based on its acidity will impart various aromas.

Live Wire Hops has serviced 13 breweries, and while both Dallam and Welty enjoy working the hopyard, marketing their product and working with customers also is an important piece of the business.

"We both really enjoy the sales and marketing end of our business and getting out and meeting new folks and the journey of sharing your story with others and building those relationships," Welty said. "And the industry is so collaborative and so inclusive and people are just willing to try new things."

Ranging from notes of citrus and floral to pine and spice, five types of hops are grown on the plot: Mackinac, Cascade, Crystal, Centennial and Chinook. Growing hops in a new region creates new flavor and aroma possibilities. Their Cascade, for instance, has a more piney and resinous character than a Pacific Northwest grown Cascade.

The plants are perennials, with lifespans estimated at 10 to 15 years.

"We're kind of in a new frontier growing them here in Illinois. I'll be curious to see what that life cycle looks like here in Illinois," Welty added.

For more information, visit www.livewirehops.com.

(This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.)

Queen

Continued from Page A1

They always said it's not just 'your' community, it belongs to everyone. You need to help everyone because Mendota is actually just one big family," she explained. "I really love that about this small town. No matter where you go, you'll always find a smiling face somewhere."

Community service started quite early for Perris. At the age of 5, she began delivering Meals on Wheels with her grandmother. "We would go to the door and talk to people as we dropped off the meals," she recalled of the experience. "I really enjoyed that and it affected me."

To this day, she enjoys visiting with the elderly. A few days after winning the pageant, Perris went to Stonecroft and spent time talking with the residents. "In one way or another, everyone has some type of connection with the Sweet Corn Festival," she explained. "Some of the older people were not able to go to the festival this year, so I was able to tell them about it, let them know what it was like and who was there."

Even though she is now starting college, Perris intends to stay very involved with the community. In September, she will do 100 Miles for Survivors to raise money for the Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline. "I'll be running 100 miles during the month with Mendota cheering me on, and I'm excited to do that," she said. "Suicides among returning veterans is very high and that has always affected me."

In October, she will again conduct the coat and sock drive that she established through the Rotary while in high school. "Last year through social media, I drove all the way to Indiana to pick up a load of coats and socks, which I then brought back and donated to local shelters and schools," she noted.

In her spare time, she also makes quilts and blankets to donate to charity. "I've been sewing since I was 5 — anything that keeps me

busy and happy is what I like to do," she said.

One of the main goals for Perris, though, is to get the mini king and queen more involved in activities this year and show them that community service can be fun, much like her grandmother did for her. She sees projects such as helping the Gardeners Club plant flowers around town as one way to get the mini royalty involved and hopefully to also inspire other kids to take part.

"I think it would be great to get more kids interested in community service," she said.

Perris said she is shocked by the number of kids who have never been to Mendota's museums and don't know the history of the community. "I've always wanted to get younger kids involved in their community," she emphasized. "I was very lucky to have a family that encouraged me to be involved and volunteer, but not all kids are that lucky. This is really important to me."

Once the whirlwind of the festival was over, one of the first stops for Perris was attending a Rotary Club meeting to thank the organization for all their support. "As my sponsors, they were so excited that I was chosen as Queen this year," she said. "It has been phenomenal to have them in my corner, and actually, they cheered me on all through high school in my community service projects."

Perris also expressed her appreciation to the Chamber, especially the Masinis and Shelby Weide, for their work on the festival and to Allison Wasmer and Abby Fancher for their help getting the contestants ready for the pageant.

After college, Perris intends to return to Mendota — or nearby — and begin her career in the soil science/conservation field doing water testing and soil sampling. "I want to come back home; this is my place and the residents of Mendota are my people," she said. "I love this town."



PUBLIC AUCTION

Bob & Rosemary Parker, Estate

Saturday, August 28, 2021

Starting @ 9:00 am

Lunch available • Comfort station

Cleaning out the house & barns, the auction will feature, Farm house & barn find Antique & Collectible items including a 1957 John Deere 620 N.F. gas tractor, complete engine overhaul in 2012, & 7' 3 pt. blade. 78 pc Sterling Silver flatware chest & other SS pcs inc. SS candle stick holders, Crocks, Musical instruments including a violin marked "A. Curtil, Paris", Gulbransen Piano & Piccolo. Oak & walnut furniture cabinets, some rough, 7' one pc Walnut book case w lower door storage, signed & dated by maker "Carl Wazon, 1937", large 2 pc floor to ceiling two sided access oak room divider cabinet, curved glass cabinet with mirrored back, Painted Kitchen cabinet, different oak & Walnut commodes, antique rockers & chairs, some Cain seated, oak drop front desks & book cabinets, midcentury furniture & items, bedroom furniture, rough sawn barn lumber, Large collection of Fabric, material & yarn, sewing & quilters craft related goods, Sampler dated 1878, Household decorative & home Furnishings including cookware, everyday dishes etc., 2006 Amana Upright Freezer, several cedar chests, trunks & Lockers, Spool cabinet, Costume Jewelry inc. Sterling & Gold rings, framed pictures & prints, 2 by Paul Randal Sheridan IL. Collectible glassware, pink stem w blue base depression glass & H.P. Cups & Saucers, China sets, Hand painted hat pin holder, bowls, plates etc. collectible figurines, cast iron Barrell still bank, carved owl, lg dinner bell w yoke, cast iron butchering kettle, Wilton bench vice, Forge w blower, picket fence uprights, hand cranked Corn sheller painted "Marseilles", Milk cans, cistern pump, footed cast iron pot, WWII sock knitting machine, wood Barrell washing tub, pulleys, sev. lg & small gallon crocks inc 20 gal. Lowell Tonica II., & other barn & farm related items. Granite coffee pots, grey & marble, sev. midcentury luggage pc's, sev. wood shaft golf clubs, lion head carved Morris chair, train set by Marx, Galvanized tubs, garden plow, 10' step ladder, mantis yard machine, Porter cable Air compressor, shell lawn chair, bird bath, singer treadle sewing machine, long handle tools Etc. Many other items too numerous to mention & some likely not yet discovered. Hope to see you there!

Item of Special interest, is a large rock collection, owned by the late Fred Krieger in the 60's operated a rock shop in Serena IL. This auction will feature the remainder those rocks that inc Large Agate & Geodes & possible other not familiar.

Terms: Cash or good check, most credit cards acceptable Master Card / Visa. Proper photo ID required for registration. No property removed until settled for. Not responsible for items or accidents. All items sold to the best & highest bidder. NO BUYERS PREMIUM. LIVE AUCTION ONLY.

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Chris Wegener, Sandwich IL. 815-451-2820 & Joel Prestegard, 815-761-7426, Lee IL.

See photos & information @ go2wegenerauction.com.

PUBLIC AUCTION

BUREAU COUNTY FARMLAND - BERLIN TOWNSHIP

350 +/- ACRES

The following described farmland will be offered by PUBLIC AUCTION on:

Thursday, September 30th, 2021

10:00 A.M.

On line bidding available through Proxibid, call 815-699-7999, at least 3 business days prior to auction.

Sale Day Location: The Feed Store Restaurant — 212 Main St., Malden, IL 61337

Farm Location: Located in sections 15, 22, and 23 of Berlin Township, the farm lays just North of Zearing, IL on Township Road 2800E and 2100N. (Watch for signs)

Description:

Tract 1: 81.27 +/- Acres located S ½ of SE ¼ Section 15, Berlin Township, Bureau County, IL. 76.7 +/- Tillable Acres. **A Productivity Index of 130.8 +/-** as per Surety. Production soils include Catlin, Muscatune, Sable, Sawmill, Varna and Lawler. 1.4 acres of CRP filter strip paying \$298. Annual payment expiring 9-30-2034. Tax ID #11-23-100-001, 2020 taxes paid in 2021 were \$2,541.36.

Tract 2: 80 +/- Acres located N ½ of NE ¼ Section 22, Berlin Township, Bureau County, IL. 78.76 +/- Tillable Acres. **A Productivity Index of 134 +/-** as per Surety. Production soils include Muscatune and Catlin. Part of Tax ID #11-22-251-002 and #11-22-276-001. 2020 taxes paid in 2021 were approximately \$37.52 +/- per acre.

Tract 3: 73.12 +/- Acres located S ½ of NE ¼ Section 22, Berlin Township, Bureau County, IL. Lies North and West edge of Village of Zearing. 70.48 +/- Tillable Acres. **A Productivity Index of 134.6 +/-** as per Surety. Production soils include Catlin, Sable and Muscatune. Part of Tax ID #11-22-251-002 and 11-22-276-001. 2020 taxes paid in 2021 were approximately \$37.52 +/- per acre.

Tract 4: 116.8 +/- Acres located N ½ of Section 23, (all lying North of Burlington Northern Railroad) Berlin Township, Bureau County, IL. 115.48 +/- Tillable Acres. **A Productivity Index of 138.1 +/-** as per Surety. Production soils include Sable, Catlin, Muscatune, and Harpster. Part of Tax ID #11-23-100-001, 2020 taxes paid in 2021 were approximately \$8,810.36. **NO IMPROVEMENTS are offered with this tract.**

Plat locations, Aerial Photos and Soil Maps are available @ rickrediger.com

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- 1.) All Tracts will be sold by the surveyed acres. Survey will be provided by Seller.
- 2.) The successful bidder will be required to enter into a standard purchase agreement contract. 10% of the contract purchase price will be due immediately following the auction. The balance will be due and payable at closing on or before November 12, 2021.
- 3.) The seller shall provide a title insurance policy in the amount of the purchase price of the subject property.
- 4.) Based upon the 2020 real estate taxes paid in 2021, the 2021 real estate taxes due and payable in 2022 will be credited by the Seller to the Buyer at closing. All subsequent real estate taxes will be the responsibility of the buyer.
- 5.) The property is being sold in **"AS IS"** condition, with no implied warranties of any kind.
- 6.) The information is believed to be accurate. However, we strongly urge all prospective buyers to thoroughly research all pertinent data and to draw their own conclusions.
- 7.) All announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any previously printed material.
- 8.) Due to the Covid, safety restrictions in place.

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IVCC schedules late-start computer science course

OGLESBY — Illinois Valley Community College is offering a late start Computer Science I course. The course meets online Tuesdays and in lab Thursdays beginning Tuesday, Sept. 7.

The first in a sequence of classes for computer science, mathematics and engineering majors, the transfer course covers procedural programming through object-oriented programming.

Topics include algorithm development, input/output, selection, repetition, using and creating objects, arrays, records and files.

Class meets online 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and in lab 4 to 6:15 p.m. (CSI-1011-350) or 6:45 to 9 p.m. (CSI-1011-351) Thursdays.

Call (815) 224-0447 to register or contact Dean of Workforce Development Shane Lange at (815) 224-0219 or shane_lange@ivcc.edu for information.

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OPINION



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The Critical Race Theory

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD – Willie Moore was a Black man who endured segregation and saw the school where he taught integrated after a long fight for racial equality.

He loved teaching history but there was one topic he avoided: The Civil Rights Movement.

“It was just too controversial to talk about. The students came from families that had different opinions on it. So, I just avoided teaching about it,” he told me on a hot Mississippi day as his brahma cows grazed nearby and we sat on his rickety porch shooting the breeze.

In 2018, I’d stopped at Moore’s farm to interview him for a book I’m writing.

But we spent most of the time sitting and talking about Southern history. He recalled when 14-year-old Emmett Till was murdered in Money, Miss. for whistling at a white woman. In the 1970s, the small town where he lived had one Black police officer – who was only allowed to arrest other Black people.

He discussed the marches and the strife of the 1960s, a time when Black and white people used separate restrooms, drinking fountains and schools.

In our hour-long chat, he told me more about race and Mississippi than he likely ever shared with his students. Even today, Confederate flags fly in front of plantation homes just down the road from where Moore resided.

On social media, recently, I received a survey question from U.S. Rep. Rodney Davis, R-Taylorville, asking whether I thought “Critical Race Theory” should be taught in schools.

Supporters of teaching critical race theory contend race is a social construct, and that racism is not merely the product of individual bias or prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies.

Conservative critics counter that the foundation of the theory is that the United States is fundamentally racist and that it leads students to feel guilty for past actions by white people.

Here is what I do know: Our schools have done a lousy job of teaching about race, discrimination and their role in history. And we need to do better.

I first remember learning about the Civil Rights Movement in 1971, when I was in the first grade. A local radio personality, Jimmy Carr, came and spoke about Martin Luther King on the leader’s birthday. Carr’s daughter, Jamie, was our only Black classmate in Caroline Broadhead’s class at Bateman Elementary School in Galesburg.

Mrs. Broadhead was an exceptional teacher. She recognized a need and found a local person to speak to it. King had been killed less than three years before and his death was a fresh scar on the nation’s conscience.

In the third grade, our teacher taught about King’s “I Have a Dream” speech and how segregation had once been a problem in the South. It was taught straight from the book. Never was it mentioned that racism was a problem in our own community.

The beaches at the city park, Lake Story, had been segregated until just a few years before. Whites used the beach on the northside and Blacks the one on the southside.

Some Galesburg restaurants turned Black diners away. Real estate agents often wouldn’t show people of color homes north of Main Street. And the local newspaper’s society page wouldn’t write about events south of Main Street.

The ornate Orpheum Theater had Black people sit in the balcony, apart from white folks.

But our teacher taught us that segregation was a Southern problem. Was she ignorant of segregation in our hometown? Or perhaps she thought it was a lesson too close to home. One thing was for certain, she’d never receive a medal for courage in the classroom.

In a world of right and wrong, she chose a third route: compliance.

My first exposure to the concept of lynching was when our teacher told the Emmett Till story in our ninth grade civics class. The inflection of his voice and the smug manner in which he told of how Emmett was killed struck me as odd. In his rendition, the bad guys weren’t those who kidnapped and killed the 14-year-old child. It was Emmett himself.

For years, allegations of racism clung to our teacher, Ken Phlamm, like a cheap polyester suit on a hot day. The school district was either unwilling or unable to fire him despite calls for doing just that from the Galesburg Human Relations Commission and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

I used to think my hometown was unique in the way it avoided discussing its racism until I worked as a reporter in Galveston, Texas, in the 1980s. The faded letters of “Colored” could still be seen above some public doorways. But whenever I would ask older white people what the fight for integration was like, they would shrug and say it was “No big deal” and point to some distant community where things were “really bad.”

When I’d posed the same question to Black folks, the answer was always the same: “It was awful.”

Critics of the Critical Race Theory often point to the 1619 Project, a Pulitzer Prize winning endeavor by the New York Times Magazine looking at the legacy of 400 years of slavery on what is now the United States.

Some conclusions in the project I agreed with. Others I didn’t. But that’s OK. When you read something, it should provoke thought, not adherence.

Our youngsters deserve to be taught the facts and should be allowed to reach conclusions on their own.

(Scott Reeder is a veteran journalist. He works as a reporter in the Springfield area. Scottreeder1965@gmail.com)



Building the cemetery walk - 1902

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from Aug. 28, 2002.)

By Jessica Nashold

Mendota is almost always engaged in raising funds for one worthy cause or another. In 1902, the objective was a cement walk from town to the cemeteries, north of the city limits. By August, a total of \$1,800.63 had been collected and \$300 more was needed. It was noted that the Presbyterian Church was the first church to donate to the cause - \$28.18.

Work will begin Monday, Aug. 28.

J.L. Nisley, street superintendent, reported on other walks being built between May 1 and Sept. 1, 1902. Cement walks had totaled 6,550 lineal feet, brick walks, 380 ½ feet. The city’s share of the cost was \$2,685.18 for cement, \$78.50 for brick. Businesses and homeowners took care of their own frontage. The city paid for intersections. The cost of walks being laid in the east side park was not included in this report.

The Adventists held their 11th annual camp meeting on the college campus here, in August 1902. Closing day was Aug. 16. Although troubled by rainy weather, attendance from a distance exceeded expectations.

The Adventist publication, *Our Hope*, was printed in Mendota, and during the business session, Henry Polard was reappointed editor and Lauren Dillon, business manager.

Our Hope could not be in more competent hands.

Mendota had been promised free mail delivery by Sept. 1, 1902, but received word that it might be introduced Dec. 1. The Mendota postmaster had already received supplies to be used in connection with this service.

Barth & Baumgartner reported they had unloaded a 40-ton car of coal, using two one-horse wagons and two men. This was accomplished in eight hours.

They consider this a re-

Backtracks & Sidetracks

cord-breaker.

A small item in the local news recorded George Failing’s sale of Lots 4 and 5 in Block 35 of the Illinois Central Addition to Mendota. The purchaser was Adonis Bowers and he paid \$900. SIDETRACK – The Failings moved west, and did well in oil. Don Bowers lived on the property he bought in 1902 until he died at the age of 102, in December 1951.

The Illinois State Fair marked its 50th anniversary in 1902. The directors were expecting a visit from President Theodore Roosevelt and were planning great entertainment. After a big parade with six bands, there would be auto races and a football game between the U. of I. and a team from Haskell, Ind. These plans were made in August, but Roosevelt was supposed to arrive by train from St. Louis at 12:30, Oct. 2, 1902. He was to be met by a committee of fair officials and taken to lunch before viewing the fairgrounds and giving an address to a “non-partisan” crowd.

SIDETRACK – On Oct. 4, President Roosevelt was reported to be dealing with a coal miners’ strike. It is doubtful that his visit to the Illinois State Fair on Oct. 2 materialized.

Wall Street was facing a financial crisis in 1902. The banks owed “huge sums” abroad, and were calling in loans “at the expense of speculators” to protect themselves.

Louis Waldorf rented his vacant store building on Illinois Avenue to “a Mr. Potter from Rockford,” who planned to open a dry goods store. It developed that Potter had nine stores

throughout the state. The Potter store in Mendota and the Potter family played an important part in community affairs for several decades.

A report on LaSalle County schools listed the highest salary for a male teacher as \$233.33 per month. The lowest salary for a male teacher was \$25. The highest salary for a female teacher was \$95 per month, the lowest \$25 (same as the low male wage).

Farmers were reporting a good year for oats. Yields were 40 to 70 bushels to the acre.

The trimming of trees in the Illinois Central Railroad Park was commended. “People on trains now have an unobstructed view of town.”

Bushy Brothers came to Mendota Aug. 22, 1902, with trained animal acts. They also featured “aerial exploits, daring athletes and amusing clowns.” Comfortable seats were provided in waterproof tents.

Admission – 25 cents.

Also on Aug. 22, 1902, a baseball game at the fairgrounds between Mendota and Stationville hoped to attract the public.

SIDETRACK – Where was Stationville?

On Aug. 16, 1902, the 16-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cork was kicked to death by a horse. The Corks lived south of Mendota.

SIDETRACK – Mr. Cork wrote the Reporter a week later to make clear that his son had crawled across the road and a neighbor’s horse had done the kicking. He feared Reporter readers might think it had been the Cork horse.

A new organization was announced, to be called Lonesome Husband Club. Apparently several wives were visiting their parents or vacationing without their working spouses in August.

President Biden’s man-made disasters

By Rich Lowry

President Biden arrived in office with the southern U.S. border secure and Afghanistan in a state of fragile equilibrium.

Eight months later, the border continues to be deluged with migrants overwhelming our capacity to properly house and process them, and we are evacuating our personnel from Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul overrun by desperate Afghans fleeing the Taliban.

The crisis at the border and the stunningly swift defeat in Afghanistan are entirely on Biden. He took sustainable situations and overturned them out of ideological fixity and fantastical wishful thinking.

The outcomes were utterly predictable. Indeed, anyone who knew anything about the border or Afghanistan warned what would happen.

The debacles haven’t been the product of forces beyond Biden’s control; events didn’t take a hand, he did. These are man-made disasters.

Throw on top the crime wave in U.S. cities that is a product of the left’s enthusiasm for fashionable anti-cop sentiments, and the picture is of a party that is unable to maintain order or rationally calculate the downside consequences of its rhetoric and policies.

One hallmark of the Biden approach has been laughably false assurances. He maintained at a press conference in March that there was nothing unusual going on at the border, when the historic surge had already begun. Only last month, he confidently predicted that there’d be no dramatic rooftop evacuations from Kabul, when a rapid collapse of the government was always a distinct possibility.

Then, there are the ineffectual warnings. Biden officials have repeatedly told migrants to stop coming to the U.S. border, when they have every incentive to continue to do so, and his representatives tsk-tsked the Taliban about sweeping to power by force -- something that they have fought to do for 20 years -- because it would supposedly harm the group’s international image.

And, finally, the rank blame-shifting. Biden’s team has outlandishly tried to argue that President Donald Trump somehow created the conditions for the border spinning out of control, when the truth is that Trump, after false starts, figured out how to get a handle on it. Biden points the finger at Trump, too, on Afghanistan.

Here, he has more of a case -- the so-called peace deal that Trump cut with the Taliban was a travesty that undercut the Afghan government. But nothing forced Biden, who has happily reversed field on most Trump policies, to abide by an agreement that the Taliban violated from the outset or to execute a withdrawal that kneecapped the Afghan army in the midst of fighting season and a gathering Taliban offensive.

He was the one whose exit denied the Afghan army the U.S. air support and logistics it had always depended on, who left without securing a nearby base in the region, who didn’t care enough about Afghan allies who had risked their lives for us to ensure that they could get out of the country, who sent a message of abandonment that was a blow to Afghan morale from the top all the way down.

It’s a particularly galling Biden rhetorical move to use the catastrophic failure of the Afghan forces that he helped bring about to insist that his decision to leave was the only responsible one. He’s gone from claiming we could safely leave because the Afghan security forces would do just fine on their own, to arguing we had no choice but to get out because they couldn’t manage without us.

Both at the U.S. border and in Afghanistan, Biden merely had to keep in place what he inherited to sustain success or at least avoid disaster. On the border, Trump’s pandemic-era controls and his agreements with Mexico and Central American countries were sensible and tested. Afghanistan was more difficult, but with some determination and finesse, Biden could have maintained the minimal U.S. commitment that had forestalled a Taliban takeover for years.

Instead, in both cases, he quite literally chose chaos.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Mask

Continued from Page A1

Since then, ISBE has put more than two dozen public and nonpublic school systems on probationary status for refusing to comply with the mandate, although some have since had their status restored after later agreeing to comply.

Under the state's administrative code, schools can be placed on probation for "deficiencies that present a health hazard or a danger to students or staff." When that happens, the schools are given 60 days to submit a plan for correcting the deficiency and, if they fail to do so, risk losing their state recognition altogether.

"I'm taking this requirement extremely seriously because every single student in Illinois deserves a safe in-person education this fall," State Superintendent Carmen Ayala said at the start of the meeting. "I know this is a difficult time to be a leader, and I deeply appreciate the cooperation and the leadership of all the superintendents and principals across our state."

But a number of local and regional superintendents argued that the decision about how to reopen safely should be left to local leaders, just as it was during the early phases of the pandemic.

"For decades now in Springfield, our school leadership across the state has fought one battle after another over state mandates," said Kyle Thompson, the regional superintendent for Region 11 in east-central Illinois. "Our politicians at the state capitol are often well intentioned

when they add to our daily demands over the curriculum we provide, the meals we serve, our dress codes and much more. However, too often they don't realize the costs that come from these more isolated decisions. Under COVID-19, mandates have become politically polarizing and our students are suffering as a result of it."

Shane Gordon, superintendent of Bluford USD 318 in southern Illinois, said the polarizing atmosphere surrounding mask mandates has been a challenge for all school officials in Illinois, and he said ISBE's strict enforcement of the mandate was adding to the challenge.

"My district did choose to follow the mandate, by a 4-3 vote," he said. "Quite honestly, this decision was one made out of fear of this organization and the consequences associated. I'm before you today to express that fear is no way to govern, and fear is no way to lead."

Since that vote, Gordon said, he and members of the Bluford school board have been targets of harsh criticism in the community.

"I wish to express the current situation created by Springfield is untenable in many school districts across the state," he said. "Good people are leaving as a result of this."

But not all superintendents who spoke opposed the mask mandate or ISBE's enforcement of it.

Sheri Smith, superintendent of the Forrestville Valley School District in northwest Illinois, argued that putting districts on probation might

be too lenient because it actually gives districts additional time to continue defying the executive order.

"Why do I care about other school districts? Generally speaking, I don't have time to do that," Smith said. "However, without immediate consequence and accountability, superintendents and local school boards are left to once again navigate impossible scenarios. Probationary status does not limit a school's ability to participate in (interscholastic) events. That means locally we're left to determine if our students are placed in undue risk by participating with noncompliant districts."

Those statements came during the public comment portion of the board's meeting. The board took no further action on the mandate.



Demonstrators outside the Illinois State Board of Education building protest a state-wide indoor mask mandate in all public and nonpublic schools last week in Springfield. (Capitol News Illinois photo by Peter Hancock)

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THE BACK PAGE

GARAGE SALES & NOTICES

HUGE COUNTRY MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
4799 E. Fifth Road, Mendota
Friday, Aug. 27
8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 28
8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Craftsman
air compressor,
tools, tons of craft &
scrapbooking supplies,
home décor, books,
stuff for guys,
vintage glassware,
stone crocks & jugs,
& so much more.
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306 E. Ottawa St., Troy Grove
Troy Grove gymnasium
Aug. 26, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Aug. 27, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Aug. 28, 8 a.m.-noon
Multiple families with
all ages & sizes of
clothes & shoes, toys,
aquariums & misc. items.
1t34r

ADVERTISE YOUR GARAGE SALE HERE

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of **Pat Bieser** would like to thank the staff of Heritage Health for the excellent care given to Mom the last four plus years. You were Mom's family during the COVID crisis when we could not be with her. You are all the best. Thank you.

BLESSED EVENTS

GIBSON – Tyler Gibson and Alex Easley, boy, Aug. 6, 2021, at St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley.

JONES – Mr. and Mrs. Jones (Guinea), girl, Aug. 10, 2021, at St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley.

PHALEN – Mr. and Mrs. Cody Phalen (Ashley Piskie) of Mendota, boy, Aug. 12, 2021, at St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley.

City Council meeting schedule

MENDOTA – The remainder of the Mendota City Council meeting schedule for 2021 is as follows:
Sept. 7 & 20; Oct. 4 & 18; Nov. 1 & 15; Dec. 6 & 20.
Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. and are held in the City Council Chambers, 607 Eighth Ave., Mendota.

POLICE BLOTTER

BATTERY

Sergio Orozco, 37, of 1012 Meadowview Drive, Mendota, was charged with battery at 9:15 p.m. Aug. 13 after police officers conducted an investigative stop at Jefferson Street and Illinois Avenue due to a fight that had occurred in that area. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Jeremy P. Walters, 46, of Mount Morris, was arrested at 8:12 p.m. Aug. 20 on a valid Lee County warrant for failure to appear/dangerous drugs. The subject was unable to post bond and was transported to the LaSalle County Jail.

WARRANT ARREST

Asia L. Cordova, 25, of 907 Monroe St., Mendota, was arrested at 6:49 p.m. Aug. 21 on a valid Lee County warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. The subject posted bond and was released with a Lee County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Tobi Walzer, 19, of 206 W. Railroad, LaMoille, was arrested at 10:35 p.m. Aug. 22 on a valid Bureau County warrant for failure to appear/speeding. The subject posted bond and was released with a Bureau County court date.

WEEKLY RECORD

LaSalle County (marriage licenses)

Craig M. Cuchra of Plainfield and Mary Jo Mann of Mendota; issued July 30, 2021.

Sean J. Engel and Samantha J. Kromm, both of Mendota; issued Aug. 3, 2021.

Antonio Lechuga and Dulce M. Sepulveda, both of Mendota; issued Aug. 3, 2021.

Joseph J.J. Grey of Earlville and Barbara A. Lodge of Walton on Thames, UK; issued Aug. 6, 2021.

Brett A. Johnson of Earlville and Rebecca S. Guzman of Serena; issued Aug. 11, 2021.

Sign Ordinance

MENDOTA – The city of Mendota reminds you that it is unlawful under city ordinance 42.34 to hang, lean, or place any advertising materials on any street lamp, post, telephone or electric light pole within the city limits of Mendota. This includes garage sale notices.

This statute was designed to keep our neighborhoods clean and free of trash and debris. The city of Mendota officials ask for your cooperation in this matter.

IVCC offers online courses

OGLESBY – A series of 12-week, late-start online courses including speech, English, geography, psychology, statistics and theatre will be offered at Illinois Valley Community College beginning Sept. 15.

The 3-credit, transfer-eligible courses are World Regional Geography (GEG 1004), English Composition I (ENG 1001), Fundamentals of Speech (SPH 1001), General Psychology (PSY 1000), Introduction to Theatre (THE 2002-101) and General Elementary Statistics (MTH 1008).

"It's not too late to create a fulltime schedule online," said counselor Renee Prine.

The courses are offered fully remote; no campus

visits will be required.

Prine noted the geography and psychology courses are ideal for education majors and English, psychology and speech work well for students pursuing Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degrees.

"The flexible online format fits well with the unique scheduling of Career and Technical Education courses," Prine said. "All six courses work great for students starting or completing an associate's or bachelor's degree."

Students are encouraged to register now; over 35 online classes have reached capacity this fall. Register at (815) 224-0447 or call the Counseling Center at (815) 224-0360 to schedule an appointment.



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NEED A JOB?

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SATURDAY, September 4 ONLY!
Lobster Fest 2021

Live Lobster Sale!

(1 - 1/4lb Average Weight) **LIVE Maine Lobsters**
Due to availability, prepaid pre-orders are the only way to guarantee your lobster, Order by Tuesday, August 31st, 2021
Walk-up purchases will be very limited. **Pre-Order NOW!** (Payment required at time of pre-order)
Live Lobsters can be picked up between **9am - 5pm** in Sullivan's Foods Meat Departments!
Cooked Lobsters and Meals can be picked up between **11am - 3pm** in Sullivan's Foods Parking Lots!

\$12⁹⁹ ea **LIVE MAINE LOBSTERS**
1 1/4 lb. AVG WEIGHT

\$14⁹⁹ ea **COOKED MAINE LOBSTERS**

\$16⁹⁹ ea **COOKED MAINE LOBSTER MEAL**
WHOLE LOBSTER, SWEET CORN, POTATOES, SODA OR WATER

LIVE LOBSTER MEGA MEAL DEAL \$179⁸⁸
12 LIVE LOBSTERS, 12 EARS OF SWEET CORN, 24 PACK WATER, and 5 LBS RED POTATOES

Prepaid pre-orders will be taken through TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2021

LOBSTERFEST 2021 - ORDER FORM
-SULLIVAN'S FOODS COPY-

QTY	Please fill out and turn form with payment to your local Sullivan's Foods Customer Service Desk	
	LIVE LOBSTER - \$12.99ea PLU 50101	Pick up 9am - 5pm
	COOKED LOBSTER - \$14.99ea PLU 50102	Pick up 11am - 3pm
	COOKED LOBSTER MEAL - \$16.99ea PLU 50103	Pick up 11am - 3pm
	12 LIVE LOBSTER MEGA MEAL DEAL \$179.88ea PLU 50112	Pick up 9am - 5pm
Order Total:		
Name:		Phone:
Pick-up Time:		

QTY	LOBSTERFEST 2021 -CUSTOMER COPY-	
	LIVE LOBSTER - \$12.99ea PLU 50101	Pick up 9am - 5pm
	COOKED LOBSTER - \$14.99ea PLU 50102	Pick up 11am - 3pm
	COOKED LOBSTER MEAL - \$16.99ea PLU 50103	Pick up 11am - 3pm
	12 LIVE LOBSTER MEGA MEAL DEAL \$179.88ea PLU 50112	Pick up 9am - 5pm
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SPORTS

Changes made to 2021 Trojan football schedules

MENDOTA – There have been several changes to the Mendota High School football schedule since it was originally released. The changes are due to a lack of available officials.

On Friday, Sept. 3, Mendota's varsity game at Port Byron Riverdale has been moved to a 6:30 p.m. kickoff. There will not be a freshman-sophomore game between the two schools on the following Monday.

The varsity game between Hall and Mendota that was originally scheduled for Friday, Sept. 24 has been moved to Saturday, Sept. 25 at 2 p.m. at the MHS field. There will not be a freshman-sophomore game the following Monday.

The varsity game between Sterling Newman and Mendota that was originally scheduled for Friday, Oct. 15 has been moved to Saturday, Oct. 16 at 5 p.m. at the MHS field.

The varsity game between St. Bede and Mendota that was originally scheduled for Friday, Oct. 22 has been moved to Thursday, Oct. 21 with a 6:30 p.m. kickoff in Peru.

The revised schedules are as follows:

Varsity Football

Aug. 27 – Erie – 7 p.m.
Sept. 3 – at Port Byron Riverdale – 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 10 – Bureau Valley – 7 p.m.
Sept. 17 – at Princeton – 7 p.m.
Sept. 25 – Hall – 2 p.m.
Oct. 1 – Sherrard – 7 p.m.
Oct. 8 – at Kewanee – 7 p.m.
Oct. 16 – Sterling Newman – 5 p.m.
Oct. 21 – at St. Bede – 6:30 p.m.

Freshman-Sophomore Football

Aug. 30 – at Erie – 5:30 p.m.
Sept. 13 – at Bureau Valley – 5:30 p.m.
Sept. 20 – Princeton – 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 4 – at Sherrard – 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 11 – Kewanee – 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 18 – at Sterling Newman – 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 25 – St. Bede – 5:30 p.m.

Mendota golfers start season with 3 wins

The Mendota Trojan golf team opened the season on a successful note with a victory over Princeton and Putnam County on Aug. 16 at Wyaton Hills in Princeton.

Mendota finished the round with a 176 to edge the host Tigers by three strokes. Putnam County checked in with a 200.

Ethan Hanaman led the way for the Trojans with a 39, which was good enough for meet medalist honors. The rest of the Mendota lineup was bunched together in their final

tallies. Logan Brandner and Clay Buffington each carded a 45, followed by Dominik Stamberger with a 47, and Owen Aughenbaugh and Liam McGann both with 48s.

Mendota also was victorious in the junior varsity match as the Trojans shot a 198 compared to a 215 for Princeton and a 248 for Putnam County.

MHS's Braden McPheeters shot a 46 to tie a Princeton golfer for medalist honors. Also competing for the Trojans were Drake Dennis (48),

Cale Strauss (51), Jack Mikolasek (53), Jacob Ensor (53) and Evan McPheeters (58).

Mendota's varsity squad hosted Sandwich in its home opener on Aug. 17 and the Trojans came away with a 177-196 triumph.

Hanaman was the medalist with a 42. Brandner was close behind with a 43, followed by McGann at 45 and Buffington at 47. Braden McPheeters (54) and Stamberger (58) rounded out the MHS lineup.

MHS romps in soccer opener

MENDOTA – The Mendota Trojan soccer team lit up the scoreboard with a 14-0 romp over Sandwich in the season-opener on Aug. 23 at the MHS field.

Multiple goals were scored by Yahir Diaz (4), Ricky Orozco (2) and Jose Ruiz (2), while single goals went to Johnathan Cortez, Edgar Arteaga, Josue Arteaga, Jasiel Watson, Isaac Guzman and Eli Arjes.

Cortez and Josue Arteaga each had two assists.

Manny Trejo had two saves in net.

Winners named in Sweet Corn Tennis Tourney

MENDOTA – The Mendota Sweet Corn Festival Tennis Tournament was held over Sweet Corn Festival weekend. Winners were:

Men's Doubles: 1st place - Chris Olson/Manuel Tsoulcatos; 2nd

place - Alex Slaymaker/Eric Vergan; 3rd place - Aaron Brandner/Noah DeLong

Mixed Doubles: 1st place - Mike Murfin/Sue Knight; 2nd place - Aaron Brandner/Grace Filipiak; 3rd place - Lisa Zolper/

Richard Dana

Men's Singles: 1st place - John Chelil; 2nd place - Stas Cheli; 3rd place - Vadim Cheli

Co-Ed Singles: 1st place - John Locascio; 2nd place - Melissa Jensen; 3rd place - Alexis Finley

#FridayNight5: Dick's Sporting Goods & IHSA to crown top football plays from around the state in '21

BLOOMINGTON – The Friday Night Lights will turn on throughout the Land of Lincoln on Aug. 27 as Illinois high school football action returns around the state.

Throughout the nine-week regular season in 2021, the IHSA and Dick's Sporting Goods are teaming up to keep the excitement rolling through the weekend.

Each week, the IHSA and Dick's will release the Friday Night 5, a collection of the top five plays from

around the state from the previous week's games. The school that achieves the #1 play each week will receive a \$250 gift certificate from Dick's Sporting Goods for their football program.

The IHSA and Dick's need the help of players, coaches, and fans to find the best Friday Night 5 plays each week.

Players, coaches, and fans are welcome to submit video (must be downloadable) for consideration at FridayNight5@ihsa.org or

via social media with the hashtag #FridayNight5.

If you witness an amazing play at a game, but don't have the video, just give send in the specifics via email or on social media (FridayNight5@ihsa.org or #FridayNight5) and the IHSA will do its best to track down video of the play.

A team of Monday morning quarterbacks will review all the clips and reveal the Friday Night 5 each Tuesday during the season beginning on Aug. 31.

The dos and don'ts of kayaking

Kayaking is a healthy and enjoyable activity that attracts new enthusiasts all the time. Part of what makes the sport so popular is the relative ease with which people can get started. Kayaking requires minimal gear (kayaks can be rented if not purchased) and no advanced skills are required. However, kayaking is not to be taken lightly, as water sports can be unpredictable. Adhering to certain dos and don'ts can make kayaking safer.

- DO choose the right boat. There are boats rated for kayak racing and those that

are strictly for recreational purposes. Some boats are meant for calmer waters and others for waves and open seas.

- DON'T forget to check the weather forecast before heading out in the water. Storms can come up relatively quickly, and offshore winds can make it challenging to paddle back to shore.

- DO let someone know where you're going and how long you plan to be out on the water.

- DON'T touch or get too close to wildlife, as animals

can be unpredictable and even dangerous.

- DO dress for the water temperature and not the weather outside. This helps ensure your health if you intentionally or accidentally enter the water.

- DON'T skip wearing a life jacket/buoyancy aid.

- DO expect to get wet, even if you do not fall in. Splash up will occur from paddles and some water will get in the boat regardless.

- DON'T forget to bring along some snacks and water.

- DO bring a fellow kayaker along.

CAPTAIN THOMAS JOHN HEITMANN MEMORIAL

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th

Spring Creek Golf Course

Spring Valley, IL

Registration 8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start 10 a.m.



Cash prizes, raffles, 50/50, Auction, Silent Auction, & games of skill & chance/ "Hole in One" car giveaway

\$85/person includes:

Green Fees, Cart, Lunch, & Dinner

Cash Prizes, Raffles, 50/50, Auction and Silent Auction, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin and other games of skill and chance!

To register call 630-918-9664.

Proceeds from this event will go to help purchase equipment for the track at St. Bede Academy and scholarships.

 Like us on Facebook @tjhmemorial

 Follow us on Instagram @tjhmemorial

You may sign up individually or as a foursome for golfing.







THANK YOU

to our Sponsors and Volunteers who helped make our 20th Annual Mendota QB Club Golf Outing a great success!

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Judy Forney	Jan Phalen
The Goys	Karen Prescott
Alysa Guerrero	Carole Reeder
John Hanson	Sip-N-Snack
Chris Holdenrid	Colleen Strauss
Kim Kennedy	Carla Truckenbrod
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Lori McConville	Steve Wolfe
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"Special Thank You to Mendota Golf Club"

... and everyone else that supported this Community effort.

Mission Statement

To promote and enhance Mendota Football at all levels, High School and Junior Tackle.

Mendota QB Board of Directors

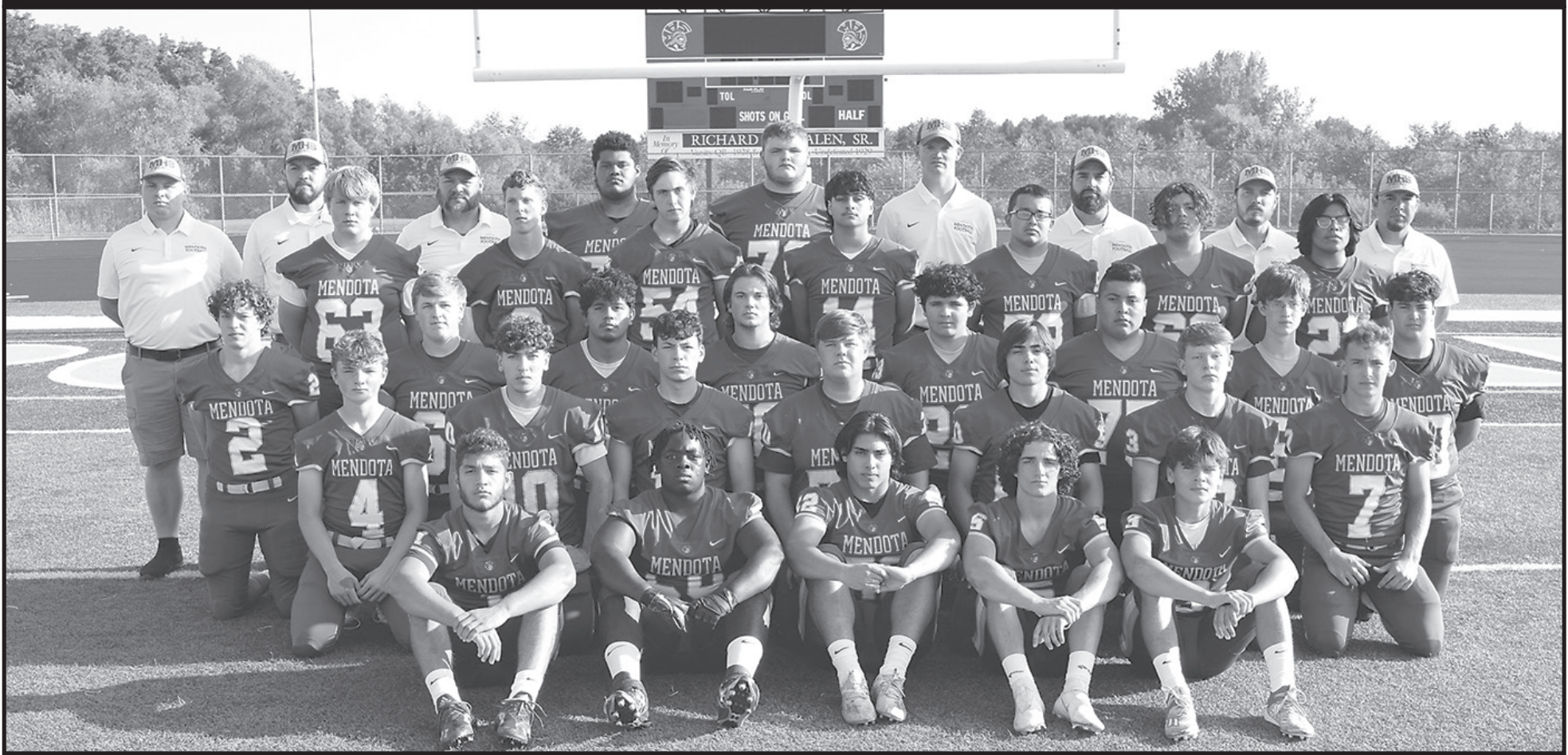


www.mendotaqbclub.com



MENDOTA TROJANS '21 KICKOFF!

MHS VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM



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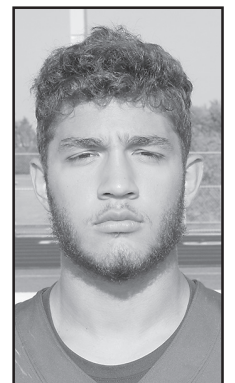
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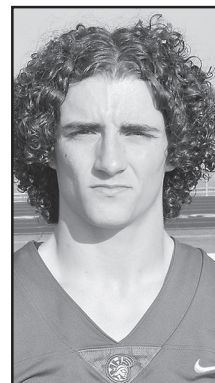
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MENDOTA TROJANS '21 KICKOFF!

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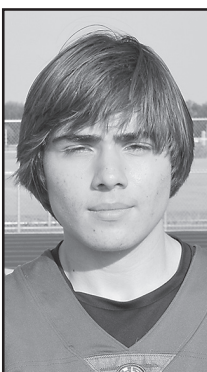



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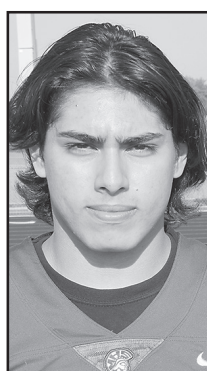




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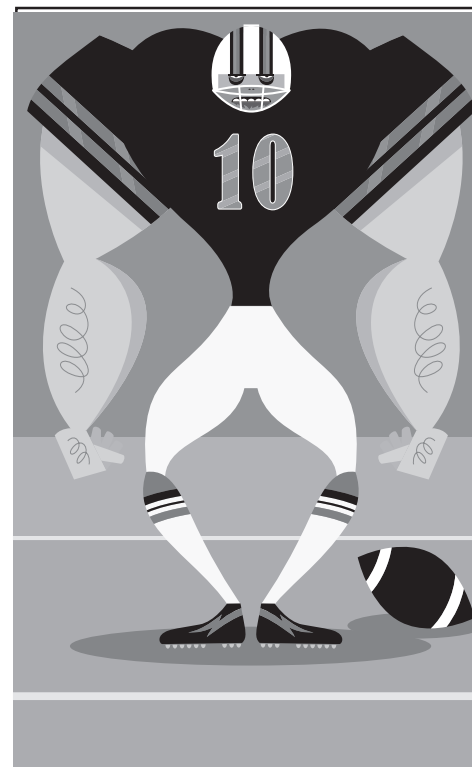



Jordan Coney
Junior

Jose Rocha
Junior

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2021 Mendota Trojans Schedule:

Aug. 27 – Erie – 7 p.m.
Sept. 3 – at Port Byron Riverdale – 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 10 – Bureau Valley – 7 p.m.
Sept. 17 – at Princeton – 7 p.m.
Sept. 25 – Hall – 2 p.m.
Oct. 1 – Sherrard – 7 p.m.
Oct. 8 – at Kewanee – 7 p.m.
Oct. 16 – Sterling Newman – 5 p.m.
Oct. 21 – at St. Bede – 6:30 p.m.



THE 2021 SPIKERS



Aug. 26 – Amboy – 5 p.m.
 Aug. 31 – Bureau Valley – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 1 – at LaSalle-Peru – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 2 – at St. Bede – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 3 – at Oregon Tourney – 4 p.m.
 Sept. 4 – at Oregon Tourney – 8 a.m.
 Sept. 7 – Hall – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 8 – at Rochelle – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 9 – Princeton – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 14 – at Sterling Newman – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 15 – at Sandwich – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 21 – at Bureau Valley – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 23 – Kewanee – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 25 – at Reed-Custer Tourney – 9 a.m.
 Sept. 28 – at Hall – 5 p.m.
 Sept. 30 – St. Bede – 5 p.m.
 Oct. 5 – Sterling Newman – 5 p.m.
 Oct. 7 – at Princeton – 5 p.m.
 Oct. 9 – at Princeton Tourney – 9 a.m.
 Oct. 12 – at Kewanee – 5 p.m.
 Oct. 16 – Mendota Varsity Tourney – 8 a.m.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Is the show “Big Sky” returning for a second season? If so, when will the new episodes start? -- **K.M.**

A: Yes, the David E. Kelley (“Ally McBeal,” “LA Law”) mystery drama set in Montana will be back for its sophomore season this fall. The first season of “Big Sky” starred Katheryn Winnick, Ryan Phillippe and Kylie Bunbury as detectives on the hunt for a serial-killer truck driver. It was based on “The Highway,” the first of a series of novels by author C.J. Box.

“Big Sky” was quickly renewed after it became ABC’s No. 1 new series last fall. New episodes will begin premiering on Thursday, Sept. 30, at 10 p.m. ET, a move from its original time slot of Tuesday nights. “Big Sky” will still be set in the same town out West, but will now be filmed in New Mexico. Incidentally, the first season was filmed in Vancouver, not Montana.

Q: My husband and I recently started streaming a show on Amazon called



K. Winnick

“Corner Gas.” I had never heard of it before. It looks pretty old. When was it made? There are several seasons available, so it must have been popular. -- **D.C.**

A: “Corner Gas” was a Canadian sitcom that ran from 2004-09. It was set in the fictional small town of Dog River, Saskatchewan, and featured a delightful cast of characters. It starred Brent Butt as gas station proprietor Brent Leroy, and Gabrielle Miller as Lacey, who relocated from Toronto to run her late aunt’s coffee shop. Brent’s parents, cantankerous dad Oscar (Eric Peterson) and long-suffering wife Emma (Janet Wright), made frequent stops at the station.

“Corner Gas” had quite a list of guest stars, including two former Canadian prime ministers, “Kids in the Hall” sketch-comedy stars Kevin McDonald and Mark McKinney, crooner Michael Buble and actor Kiefer Sutherland (“24”).

Butt went on to create and star in another series called “Hiccups,” but it lasted only 25 episodes. In 2014, he released the feature film “Corner Gas: The Movie” and later followed up with the series “Corner Gas Animated,” with the original cast members lending their

voices.

Q: What is Minnie Driver doing these days? She was one of my favorite actresses in the 1990s, but she seems to have faded away the past few years. Also, is she related to Adam Driver? -- **N.E.**

A: Minnie Driver, who turned 50 this past January, has actually accrued quite the list of credits since her breakout role in the film “Circle of Friends” in 1995. Her fame peaked when she starred alongside John Cusack in “Grosse Pointe Blank” and Matt Damon in “Good Will Hunting,” which earned her an Oscar nomination. She later starred in two short-lived series, “The Riches,” about a family of grifters co-starring Eddie Izzard, and “Speechless,” about a special-needs teen, which ran for three seasons.

Driver was born in England with the birth name of Amelia Fiona Driver, and Minnie was a childhood nickname. She’s not related to “Star Wars” actor Adam Driver, who was born in California.

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

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Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- British actor Rege-Jean Page made a splash in Shondra Rhimes’



Page

Netflix series “Bridgerton” on Christmas night of 2020. He became an overnight sensation. Fans of the show were shocked when he announced he’d be leaving the series after the first season. When he hosted “Saturday Night Live,” he confirmed he’d left the show. Netflix knew what they had and immediately signed him to star in the \$200 million film “The Gray Man,” opposite Ana de Armas, Chris Evans and Ryan Gosling, expected to be released for streaming next year. Then Paramount Pictures cast him opposite Chris Pine and Michelle Rodriguez in “Dungeons & Dragons” (due March 3, 2023).

Paramount was so impressed with him that they’ve handed Rege-Jean the plum title role of “The Saint” in the reboot of the 1962 British series that starred Roger Moore, a future James Bond

(1962-69), then Ian Ogilvy in “The Return of the Saint” (1978-79) and finally Val Kilmer in the 1997 theatrical film, which flopped.

Paramount Pictures is in a dangerous place. They agreed to release “A Quiet Place 2” for 90 days into theaters after “A Quiet Place” grossed \$350 million. But then they decided to cut the time in theaters in half so they could boost their Paramount+ downloading platform. Producers John Krasinski and Michael Bay, plus its star, Emily Blunt, were poised to receive a big bonus from the theatrical release, and they now are demanding that Paramount make up the monies they’ve lost due to the shortened release in theaters. Stars such as Tom Cruise and Mark Wahlberg are watching closely to see what Paramount will do, since both of them have major film releases upcoming through that studio. What Paramount does could affect the entire industry and some or all of the streaming platforms.

Meanwhile, MGM has been accused by director

Andrew Levitas of trying to bury his film “Minamata” because of the personal negative baggage of its star, Johnny Depp. The film was acquired last fall after MGM relaunched American International Pictures (the studio that gave us the “Beach Party” movies with Frankie Avalon and Annette Funicello in the 1960s). This comes on the heels of Warner Brothers asking Depp to resign from his role of Grindelwald in the Harry Potter spinoff franchise “Fantastic Beasts.”

Depp’s messy divorce and battles with Amber Heard have been sensational tabloid fodder, which caused his last film, “Waiting for the Barbarians,” co-starring Robert Pattinson and Mark Rylance, to tank at the box office with an embarrassing \$761,361 gross. MGM is not the powerful studio they were in their heyday and want no part of the public relations nightmare that could go with releasing this film or the hassles of dealing with Johnny Depp’s woes! “#21 Dump Street!”

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Couch Theater

“Motel Makeover” -- Like almost every other real estate-flipping show out there, someone in this Netflix original series exclaims, “We are over budget and behind schedule!” This time, the renovation team is a duo of women taking on their second hotel total-gut job, located in the resort town of Sauble Beach in Toronto, Canada. Everything that could go wrong, does (ya don’t say?!). And of course, the pandemic happened during filming. The sad-face selfie videos lamenting the difficulties of working and finding contractors and materials during the pandemic are tiring and overused, but it’s still cool to see the ultimate transformation that the hotel takes throughout the process. No spoilers on whether or not subway tile was used. (Netflix)

“Four Good Days” (R) -- Here’s your emotional purge of the week. In this based-on-a-true-story film, Mila Kunis plays Molly, an opioid-addicted young mother

who has failed repeatedly in her attempts to stop using. A new medical option aiding sobriety requires her to stay clean for a full week before being given it, so her mother vows to help her through the remaining four days of physical and mental agony. Glenn Close as Molly’s mother, Deb, is amazingly talented, able to make the audience alternately love her for her devotion to her daughter, while at the same time blame her for Molly’s failures.

“Guy: Hawaiian Style” -- And now for a palate cleanser. It seems that the Mayor of Flavortown has packed up the moving truck and headed to the islands. Instead of hitting up small-town diners, barbecues and lunch counters doing their thing, Food Network mainstay Guy Fieri hits up locally owned food establishments all over Hawaii ... each doing their thing (now with pineapple!). Incorporating Hawaiian culture and tradition into the commentary

-- and not just biting into giant portions of poke tuna while exclaiming “yowza!” -- Fieri brings his two sons along on these educational gastronomic adventures. (Discovery+)

“Val” -- You don’t have to be a huge Val Kilmer fan to enjoy this self-produced documentary on the actor’s life. In fact, it might even be better if you’re not entirely familiar with his library of work. Ever since his teen years, Kilmer has filmed both his personal and professional lives, starting with amateur productions made with his two brothers. This current documentary features old selfie-type commentary, on-set joking with co-stars, screen tests and even conversations with his mom. After chronicling his training at Juilliard, his debut on the New York City stage and his rise to Hollywood stardom, it delves much deeper into his spiritual beliefs and some truly touching personal family stories.

Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* Autism is more common than childhood cancer, diabetes and AIDS combined.

* A bizarre dream in which cannibals surrounded him and prepared to cook him as they waved spears helped inspire Elias Howe’s invention of the sewing machine. When he awoke, he remembered that the spears had holes in their shafts and moved up and down.

* “Bhang lassi” is an Indian milkshake whose main ingredient is marijuana.

* According to British law, any unclaimed swan swimming in the open waters of England and Wales belongs to the queen. The law originated in medieval times when swans were a delicacy for the wealthy.

* “Gingerphobia” is a fear of redheads.

* The Russians arrived 12 days late to the 1908 Olympics because they were using the wrong (i.e., Julian) calendar.

* In 1995 a woman in Sweden lost her wedding ring while cooking for Christmas. Understandably distraught, she looked everywhere for it and even pulled up her kitchen floor, but didn’t see it again until 16 years later, when, while gardening, she discovered it encircling a carrot that had sprouted in the middle of it.

* The amount of copper on the Arizona capitol building roof is equivalent to nearly 5 million pennies.

* Bumblebees can fly higher than Mt. Everest.

* Because he got a 25% profit share of merchandise, Elvis Presley manager Colonel Tom Parker was always in search of new ways to get fans to lay down some cash. One of the most notable was marketing to Presley’s haters with badges that read “I Hate Elvis” and “Elvis is a Jerk.”

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Trivia Test

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What word represents the letter “Q” in the NATO phonetic alphabet code?

2. MOVIES: Which actress, as a child, won a Best Supporting Actress award for her role in “The Piano”?

3. ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What product is advertised with the slogan “Vermont’s Finest”?

4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the English name for the country called Suomi by its people?

5. LITERATURE: Which 20th-century novel begins with the line, “All this happened, more or less”?

6. ANATOMY: What part of the brain deals with hearing and language?

7. FOOD & DRINK: What is the most expensive spice on Earth?

8. TELEVISION: The TV series

“Melrose Place” was a spinoff of which earlier drama?

9. U.S. STATES: Which state is known as the Beaver State?

10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the descriptive name for animals that are active at dusk and dawn?

Answers

1. Quebec

2. Anna Paquin

3. Ben & Jerry’s ice cream

4. Finland

5. “Slaughterhouse-Five,” Kurt Vonnegut

6. The left hemisphere

7. Saffron

8. “Beverly Hills, 90210”

9. Oregon

10. Crepuscular

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Josh

7 Reggae relative

7 Paper packs

12 NYC airport

13 Stetson, e.g.

14 DeGeneres of talk TV

15 Einstein’s birthplace

16 Everybody

18 As well

19 Orange variety

20 Region

22 I love (Lat.)

23 Mimicked

27 Billboards

29 Chimpunk’s kin

31 “That’s it!”

34 The Ram

35 Chaperones, usually

37 Ring decision

38 Vanished

39 Pot brew

41 Tree home

45 Belly button type

47 Conk out

48 Fluctuating

52 Mil. bigwig

53 Craze

54 Rebel Turner

55 Swelled head

56 Fake

57 -- cone



58 Aachen article

11 NBC show since 1975

37 Formosa, today

17 Awestruck

21 National symbol

42 Moved sideways

23 Chef’s garb

24 Greek consonant

44 Choir member

25 Shoe width

45 Singer Anita

26 Hosp. workers

46 Within (Pref.)

28 Speck

48 Ref

30 Sturdy tree

49 Oom- --

31 Satchel

50 Year in Acapulco

32 Altar promise

51 French diarist

33 Sister

Anais

36 Poker variety

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Carol Ann Smith, RN

Love, Joey

LOCAL AND AREA

Where are the AUCTIONS?

See Page A5!

Real News



From School Projects to the Big Game, we celebrate the events that shape our lives.

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The one who is everything you need

The Bible repeatedly tells us that God is our helper. The question is, do we really trust God to help us? It's easy to say that we trust Him, but when it comes to practically applying this truth—to leaning on the Holy Spirit to help us in every area of our lives—we often struggle to do it.

As born-again believers in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit—God's Spirit—lives in our spirit. In John 16:7, Jesus said that the Holy Spirit is our "Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor – Counselor, Strengthen, Standby)" and that He wants "to be in close fellowship" with us (AMP).

It's so important for us to know that we can have a close, intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit... that He will communicate with us. I went to church for many years and had no idea that I could overcome my problems and live with real peace and joy because the Holy Spirit lived in my spirit. It was life-changing for me when I got the revelation that He wanted to lead me in God's will for my life and He would enable me to do everything I needed to do.

The truth is if we really believe God is our helper and He's willing to help us no matter what situation we're in, then we have no reason to worry or get overwhelmed.

I'll let you in on another secret: You need to ask God for help because the Holy Spirit is not the type to barge into your life and

ENJOYING EVERYDAY LIFE

with

Joyce Meyer

take over. Has anyone ever tried to push their opinions or their agenda on you? They may or may not know what they're talking about, and they may not even be really interested in helping you do what needs to be done, but they sure have a lot to say about what you're doing wrong!

That's not what the Holy Spirit does. He knows the answer to every problem, and He will even help you get through each one. But He won't give you His advice unless you ask for it. In other words, the humble get the help.

Every Problem Matters to God

Jesus said in John 15:5 (NIV), "Apart from me you can do nothing." And that's so true. But did you know He's not holding out on you? God actually likes it when we ask for His help. And He not only wants to help us with our big problems, He also wants to help us with the little things in life. That's wonderful news because sometimes we allow the little things to get us frustrated and upset. It's good for us to pray often, "Help, Lord. Help me!"

In the Psalms, we frequently see King David going to God for help. For example, Psalm 40:13 (NIV) says, "Be pleased to save me, Lord; come quickly, Lord, to help me."

Notice that David was not only bold enough to ask God for help, but he was also confident that God would answer his prayers.

In Psalm 43:5 (AMP), David says, "Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God."

You and I have so many opportunities to feel sad or discouraged and have a bad attitude, but God wants us to stay strong in Him, like David did. Those who do will eventually come out on top, because there's no way the enemy can hold you back if you will trust God and keep your hope in Him.

Learn How to Trust Your Helper

It's comforting to know God will help you get through the hard times of life. His grace and strength will sustain you while you're waiting for your breakthrough. Isaiah 41:10 says He "will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (NIV).

Even when you're tempted to think, "It's not going to do me any good to pray after the way I've acted, don't let that stop you from asking for God's help. Because when you go to the Father in prayer, you don't go in your name—you go in the name of Jesus."

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV) says we can "approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." And Psalm

23:3 says, "He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake" (emphasis added).

When you're hurting, in trouble, or waiting for answers in your life, you need to believe that your Helper, the Holy Spirit, is with you and He wants to help you. Stay in close fellowship with Him and ask Him for the help you need. No matter what the circumstances may look like, believe He's working on your behalf. He is your Comforter, Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengthen, Standby—He's everything you need—and He's just waiting for you to ask.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching CD series The Holy Spirit. 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 130 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and HOW TO AGE WITHOUT GETTING OLD (FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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101 LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
of Property Owned by
the City of Mendota
and Invitation to Bid
Thereon

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
THAT the City Council
of the City of Mendota
will receive sealed bids
for the purchase, under
the successful bid, of
the fee simple interest
in the following real
property:
THE S 45' OF LOT 3
IN BLOCK 9 AND THE
S 1/2 OF THE N 15'
OF LOT 3 AND THE
S 22 1/2' OF LOT 4 IN
BLOCK 9 ALL IN THE
IL CENTRAL RR CO'S
ADDITION TO THE
CITY OF MENDOTA,
LASALLE COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.

which property is
generally located at 905
6th Avenue, Mendota,
IL and is currently
devoted to a vacant
residentially zoned lot.
Bids for the purchase
of the aforesaid interest
in the above-described
property are hereby
invited and will be
received by the city
clerk at 800 Washington
Street, Mendota, IL

61342 between the
hours of 7am until 4pm
on September 20, 2021,
the date for the opening
of bids. Said proposals
shall be addressed to:
City Council of the City
of Mendota
c/o City Clerk
800 Washington Street
Mendota, Illinois 61342
and shall bear the
legend "PROPOSAL
- SALE OF 905 6TH
AVENUE" and the
name, address and
phone number of the
bidder.

All bids received will
be publicly opened
and read aloud at the
regular meeting of the
City Council of the City
of Mendota at 5:30pm
on Monday, September
20, 2021.

A contract may be
awarded to the highest
bidder whose bid is
found to be in the best
interests of the City
of Mendota. The City
of Mendota reserves
the right to reject any
and all bids and to
waive any informalities
or irregularities in the
bidding. The City
of Mendota further
reserves the right to
review and study any
and all bids and to
make a contract award
within 30 days after the
bids have been opened

and publicly read.
Copies and bidding
documents may be
obtained at the office of
the City Clerk.
No. 0804 (Aug. 18, 25,
Sept. 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
of Property Owned by
the City of Mendota
and Invitation to Bid
Thereon

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
THAT the City Council
of the City of Mendota
will receive sealed bids
for the purchase, under
the successful bid, of
the fee simple interest
in the following real
property:
LOT 4 AND THE S 1/2
OF LOT 5 IN BLOCK
29 IN THE IL CENTRAL
RR CO'S ADDITION
TO THE CITY OF
MENDOTA, LASALLE
COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

which property is
generally located at
1107 3rd Avenue,
Mendota, IL and is
currently devoted to
a vacant residentially
zoned lot.

Bids for the purchase
of the aforesaid interest
in the above-described
property are hereby
invited and will be
received by the city
clerk at 800 Washington
Street, Mendota, IL
61342 between the
hours of 7am until 4pm
on September 20, 2021,
the date for the opening
of bids. Said proposals
shall be addressed to:
City Council of the City
of Mendota
c/o City Clerk
800 Washington Street
Mendota, Illinois 61342
and shall bear the
legend "PROPOSAL
- SALE OF 1107 3rd
AVENUE" and the
name, address and
phone number of the
bidder.
All bids received will
be publicly opened

and read aloud at the
regular meeting of the
City Council of the City
of Mendota at 5:30pm
on Monday, September
20, 2021.

A contract may be
awarded to the highest
bidder whose bid is
found to be in the best
interests of the City
of Mendota. The City
of Mendota reserves
the right to reject any
and all bids and to
waive any informalities
or irregularities in the
bidding. The City
of Mendota further
reserves the right to
review and study any
and all bids and to
make a contract award
within 30 days after the
bids have been opened
and publicly read.
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obtained at the office of
the City Clerk.
Mendota City Clerk
No. 0805 (Aug. 18, 25,
Sept. 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
of Property Owned by
the City of Mendota
and Invitation to Bid
Thereon

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
THAT the City Council
of the City of Mendota
will receive sealed bids
for the purchase, under
the successful bid, of
the fee simple interest
in the following real
property:
Lot 8 and the south 7'
of Lot 7 in Block 10 of
Rust's Addition to the
city Mendota, lasalle
county, illinois.

which property is
generally located at
1402 Lincoln Avenue
and is currently devoted
to a vacant residentially
zoned lot.
Bids for the purchase
of the aforesaid interest
in the above-described
property are hereby
invited and will be
received by the city
clerk at 800 Washington
Street, Mendota, IL
61342 between the
hours of 7am until 4pm
on September 20, 2021,
the date for the opening
of bids. Said proposals
shall be addressed to:
City Council of the City
of Mendota
c/o City Clerk
800 Washington Street
Mendota, Illinois 61342
and shall bear the
legend "PROPOSAL
- SALE OF 1402
LINCOLN AVENUE"
and the name, address
and phone number of
the bidder.

All bids received will
be publicly opened
and read aloud at the
regular meeting of the
City Council of the City
of Mendota at 5:30pm
on Monday, September
20, 2021.

A contract may be
awarded to the highest
bidder whose bid is
found to be in the best
interests of the City
of Mendota. The City
of Mendota reserves
the right to reject any
and all bids and to
waive any informalities
or irregularities in the
bidding. The City
of Mendota further
reserves the right to
review and study any
and all bids and to
make a contract award
within 30 days after the
bids have been opened
and publicly read.
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documents may be
obtained at the office of
the City Clerk.
Mendota City Clerk
No. 0806 (Aug. 18, 25,
Sept. 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
of Property Owned by
the City of Mendota
and Invitation to Bid
Thereon

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
THAT the City Council
of the City of Mendota
will receive sealed bids
for the purchase, under
the successful bid, of
the fee simple interest
in the following real
property:

LOT 5 EXCEPTING
THE S 50' AND LOT
6 EXCEPTING THE
S 50' AND ALSO
EXCEPTING THE
RIGHT OF WAY WHICH
WAS DEDICATED
TO THE STATE OF
ILLINOIS PURSUANT
TO LASALLE COUNTY
DOC. #02-11436 ALL
IN THE ORIGINAL
TOWN OF MENDOTA,
LASALLE COUNTY,
ILLINOIS

which property is
generally located
at 1209 and 1211
Washington Street,
Mendota, IL and is
currently devoted to
a vacant Service-
Business zoned lot.
Bids for the purchase
of the aforesaid interest
in the above-described
property are hereby
invited and will be
received by the city
clerk at 800 Washington
Street, Mendota, IL
61342 between the
hours of 7am until 4pm
on September 20, 2021,
the date for the opening
of bids. Said proposals
shall be addressed to:
City Council of the City
of Mendota
c/o City Clerk
800 Washington Street
Mendota, Illinois 61342
and shall bear the
legend "PROPOSAL -
SALE OF 1209 & 1211
WASHINGTON ST"
and the name, address
and phone number of
the bidder.

All bids received will
be publicly opened
and read aloud at the
regular meeting of the
City Council of the City
of Mendota at 5:30pm
on Monday, September
20, 2021.
A contract may be
awarded to the highest
bidder whose bid is
found to be in the best
interests of the City
of Mendota. The City
of Mendota reserves
the right to reject any
and all bids and to
waive any informalities
or irregularities in the
bidding. The City
of Mendota further
reserves the right to
review and study any
and all bids and to
make a contract award
within 30 days after the
bids have been opened
and publicly read.
Copies and bidding
documents may be
obtained at the office
of the City Clerk - 800
Washington St.
No. 0807 (Aug. 18, 25,
Sept. 1)

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice is hereby given
that on September 16,
2021 the School Board
of La Moille School
District No. 303 will
sell the Van Orin
Elementary School
building and property
at public sale by Sealed
Bid which shall be due
on September 16, 2021,
at 4:00 p.m. at 801 S.
Main Street, La Moille,
Illinois, and opened at
801 S. Main Street, La
Moille, Illinois at 6:30
p.m. on September 16,
2021 (the High School
Library) which sale
shall be on the following
terms:

a. Minimum bid of
\$1.00;
b. The property will be
sold as is;
c. The sale price shall
be due in full on the
date of title transfer,
October 1, 2021; &
d. Such other terms as
the Board may deter-
mine and publish before
the date of bidding.
No. 0810
(Aug. 25, Sept. 1, Sept.
8, 2021)

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

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113 FINANCIAL

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For more information,
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119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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facility that is licensed
or operating under a
permit issued by the
Illinois Department of
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Services may publish
advertisements of the
services for which it is
specifically licensed or
issued a permit. Your
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parent or guardian to
verify the validity of the
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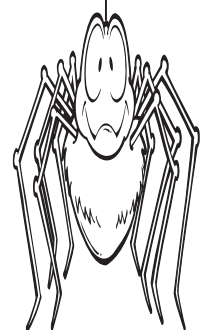
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2517 Woods St. West Brooklyn, IL \$129,900.00
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1108 6th St., Mendota \$89,000
Four Unit apartment building. 1 2BR 3 1BR, Corner lot with driveway. Electric heat upstairs. 2 GFA furnaces for downstairs apartments. Roof 6 yrs old. New exterior paint and repair to porch. Owner pays water bill. 4 stoves, 4 fridges. Call for a showing. Good investment property.

4453 E. 1344th Rd., Earlville, IL \$119,000
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MENDOTA-3 BEDROOM -SPACIOUS ROOMS-2 CAR GARAGE **REDUCED** ----- \$115,000

NEW LISTING-EARLVILLE 4- 5 BEDROOM -3 BATHS **SOLD** ----- \$160,000

LAMOIL LE -3 BDR. HOME -APPROX. 7 ACRES - 2 LG. BLDGS **PENDING** ----- \$229,900

MENDOTA-5 BEDROOM -2.5 BATHS - APPROX .. 1 AC. LOT **SOLD** ----- \$326,000

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815-508-9715

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815-582-2381

247 Knox Road, Mendota \$350,000

Have you always wanted a cabin in the woods to remind you of the Northwoods? Then this beautiful log home is for you. The owner hand-picked and built this log home using trees from WI for his dream home. Pride of ownership shines throughout. Features include 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, double sided stone fireplace, spiral staircase to loft room with pool table for enjoying family time. Loft overlooks the dining, kitchen and living room. Sit outside by the fire pit and listen to nature or relax in the hot tub.

2513 Woods St., West Brooklyn \$230,000

AS CLOSE TO BEING IN THE COUNTRY WITHOUT BEING IN THE COUNTRY! Picture yourself sitting on the front porch of this lovely home enjoying the breeze, or entertaining on the beautiful back landscaped patio, or in the loft area above the garage! The possibilities are endless. THE SELLER JUST SPENT \$7,000 ON PAINTING THE HOUSE! The 3 car detached garage has a concrete floor, central air n heat, shop area with work bench, cable & internet available and cabinets, a loft area to entertain your family or friends and has extra closets and storage space! This two story home is located on a corner lot with lots of parking.

558 Inlet Road, Sublette \$135,000

With a little TLC and personalization, this could be a great fixer upper! This home is situated on 2.43 acres. This home has 3 bedrooms, family room with a wood burner stove, 1 bath, kitchen, dining room and living room. Main floor bedroom and laundry. Home is sold AS IS! Other features included are a 4 car detached garage with fuel heat, a storage shed for all your farm equipment, a pole building with concrete floor with drain and exhaust to go outside and heat for all your storage needs. Call today for a showing!

582 US Route 52, Sublette \$349,900

Unique home with lots of spacious room to enjoy! Features include: 3.47 acres 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, shed, and outbuilding for more storage. Lots of storage space throughout and work shop off garage. Must see to appreciate. Across from Shady Oaks Golf Course. Call today for a showing!

2600 Shaw Road, West Brooklyn \$179,000

Beautiful 7.95 Ac of land with a long lane and surrounded by trees for privacy. You will love the peacefulness you feel here. Features a 1999 modular improved residential home with appliances and 3 bar stools, fireplace, large storage shed and small shed, firepit. Metal roof added Nov 2020, deck in front and back. LP tank included. (central air not working) Must see to appreciate. Very secluded Call today for a showing.