

## Sublette men honored for heroic act of saving girl from house fire

□ Chief: Without these men, the house fire may have had a different ending

By **TONJAGREENFIELD**  
Staff writer

SUBLETTE — An open house and recruitment event at the Sublette Fire Department honored two local heroes, and offered a glimpse into how the department handles a car accident with entrapment, ending in a surprise marriage proposal.

The Sublette Fire Department's open house was held on March 21. The warm spring weather brought out a large crowd to the fire department. The event started at 2 p.m. with a presentation by Sublette Fire Chief Kevin Schultz.

Schultz said the fire department is at a crossroads like every other department in our area, and in the state. He added that Sublette has needs for people willing to step up and volunteer with the department. He said the department has 27 members currently and utilizes the help of neighboring communities with mutual aid when a call comes in. But, Schultz said, sometimes there is no one there to answer the call.

Schultz told the crowd that on Sunday, March 14, the department got a call for a dumpster fire at Woodhaven Lakes. While en route to the campground, the department received a call of a house fire with a burn victim in Sublette. Prior to arrival of the first engine company, Sublette residents and neighbors, Curtis Ryan Kessel and Nick Wilson, saw a young child in a window on the second story of the house. As they approached the house, the father was exiting the residence with another child so Kessel and Wilson



Sublette residents Nick Wilson, center, and Curtis Ryan Kessel, right, are presented with plaques by Sublette Fire Chief Kevin Schultz for their efforts in rescuing a child from a house fire in Sublette on March 14. (Reporter photo by Tonja Greenfield)

jumped into action. Kessel scaled the back fence and climbed to the second story window, grabbed the child by the ankle and lowered the child down to Wilson, saving the child's life before the window was enveloped in smoke and flames.

A few minutes later, the first engine company arrived with heavy fire on the first and second story. Quick hose deployment and aggressive attack contained the fire to the structure of origin. The father was transported by Sublette EMS for burns and the children were transported by Amboy EMS for smoke inhalation and evaluation.

Schultz said two young

gentlemen stepped up and made a difference. He said that they were also assisted by Cody Shaw, Bubba Ellis and Matthew Stephenitch, adding, without these men, the Sublette house fire may have had a different ending.

Schultz presented Kessel and Wilson with plaques in appreciation.

After the presentation, Nick Dinges of the Sublette Fire Department welcomed everyone outside for a demonstration of what happens when the department has a call of an accident with a victim trapped. Dinges described the steps the fire department personnel were taking to remove the

entrapped victim, played by fire fighter Matt Stephenitch, from the vehicle.

Dinges said last year, the department received 200 calls, and the call volume seems to be increasing each year.

After the demonstration, Dinges talked about the families of the fire department and how multi-generations of family members have volunteered to protect the community. One of the families is the Erbeses. He brought up Bryce Erbes to say a few words. Erbes took the opportunity to surprise his girlfriend Ashley Fisher by getting down on one knee and asking her to marry him. She said yes.

## Greater reopening could be near in state

□ 'Bridge phase' dependent on factors

By **JERRY NOWICKI**  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — All Illinoisans 16 years of age and older outside of Chicago will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations beginning April 12, and last week the state announced a "metric-based" phase-in to greater reopening.

The so-called "bridge phase" to reopening can begin when 70 percent of seniors 65 years of age and older have received at least their first dose of the vaccine, according to the governor. As of March 22, that number stood at 64 percent.

It is also dependent on at least 20 percent of intensive care beds being available. Other metrics, such as COVID-like illness hospital admissions, mortality rate and case positivity rate over a 28-day monitoring period, must "hold steady."

Gov. JB Pritzker said all regions of the state will move to the bridge phase and beyond as one, rather than individually.

"Unfortunately, COVID-19 has not gone away," Pritzker said at a news conference in Chicago, noting the virus is still killing Illinoisans daily and safety precautions such as masking and social distancing are still necessary.

"And I'm more optimistic today than I have been at any time over the last year, and more importantly the doctors and scientists are too," he added. "It's time to begin

to cautiously move toward normalcy."

The state also updated current Phase 4 mitigations so that anyone with proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test 1-3 days prior to an event or outing do not count against capacity limits.



Pritzker

The bridge phase will include higher capacity limits at places like museums, zoos and spectator events and increased business operations, according to the governor's office.

The largest increase is to social events, which can allow 250 people indoors and 500 outdoors. Previously those were capped at 50 people.

Recreation activities are allowed with groups up to 100 or 50 percent of capacity indoors, while outdoor recreation is limited to groups of 100, with multiple groups allowed at the same site.

Ticketed recreation events are allowed to hold 60 percent of the facility's capacity.

In the bridge phase, restaurants and bars can increase capacity from 25 percent to 30 percent, and outdoor capacity is allowed up to 50 percent for standing areas. In seating areas, parties of up to 10 are allowed to sit six feet apart.

See Reopen, Page A5

## Tax Day for individuals extended to May 17; Treasury, IRS extend filing & payment deadline

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service announced that the federal income tax filing due date for individuals for the 2020 tax year will be automatically extended from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021. The IRS will be providing formal guidance in the coming days.

"This continues to be a tough time for many people, and the IRS wants to continue to do everything possible to help taxpayers navigate the unusual circumstances related to the pandemic, while also working on important tax administration responsibilities," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "Even with the new deadline, we urge taxpayers



to consider filing as soon as possible, especially those who are owed refunds. Filing electronically with direct deposit is the quickest way to get refunds, and it can help some taxpayers more quickly receive any remaining stimulus payments they may be entitled to."

Individual taxpayers can also postpone federal income tax payments for the 2020 tax year due on April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021, without penalties and interest, regardless of the amount owed. This postponement applies to individual taxpayers, including individuals who pay self-employment tax. Penalties, interest and additions to tax will begin to accrue on any remaining unpaid balances as of May 17, 2021. Individual taxpayers will

See Tax, Page A5

## Illinois expands vaccine eligibility ahead of April 12 universal rollout

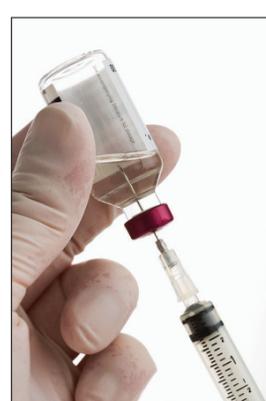
By **PETER HANCOCK**  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Public Health announced that more groups of people will be eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccinations ahead of April 12 when everyone over age 16 will become eligible.

Starting March 22, higher education staff, government workers and members of the media are eligible to receive shots.

A week later, on March 29, restaurant staff, construction trade workers and religious leaders will become eligible.

"As more vaccine becomes available in the coming weeks and months, we



will continue to make sure we are reaching people who are at greater risk of exposure to the virus or from suffering severe illness due to COVID-19," IDPH Director

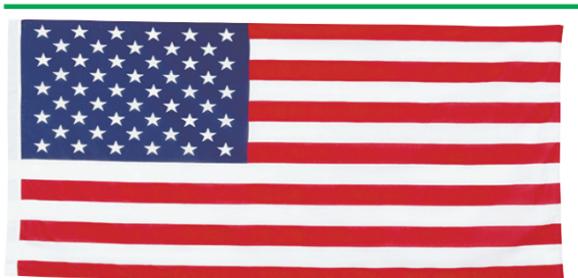
Dr. Ngozi Ezike said in a news release. "While we will continue to prioritize individuals who are 65 years and older, as well as health care workers and individuals with underlying medical conditions, we want to maintain our momentum going forward and continue to increase our march towards herd immunity."

Vaccines first became available in Illinois on Dec. 15. At that time, only front-line health care workers and the staff and residents of long-term care facilities were eligible.

See Vaccine, Page A5



SEE SHOPPE LOCAL DIRECTORY  
AT WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM



## Index

Local News .....	Pages A2,A3,A5,A7,A9
Obituaries .....	Page A4
Opinion .....	Page A6
Entertainment .....	Page A8
The Back Page .....	Page A10
Sports .....	Pages B1,B2
Community Unity.....	Page B3
Church Page.....	Page B5
Classifieds/Legals.....	Page B6



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# LOCAL AND AREA

## NSDAR chapter recognizes Good Citizen winners

MENDOTA—Fort du Rocher chapter of the National Society Daughters of American Revolution are recognizing Good Citizen winners from four local high schools. They are:

- Catherine Fasking, daughter of Chris and Angie Fasking, from Earlville High School.
- Twila Martinson, daughter of Todd and Lisa Martinson, from Mendota High School.
- Lauren Phillips, daughter of Chet and Shelly Phillips, from LaSalle-Peru High School.

- Mya Thrall, daughter of Steven and Jahni Thrall, from Leland High School.
- The NSDAR chapter is pleased to honor each of these outstanding students and congratulate them for their excellence in academics and in citizenship.



Fasking



Martinson



Phillips



Thrall

## ISA partners with Soil and Water Outcomes Fund

◆ Partnership supports Northeast Illinois farmers' efforts to produce and benefit from quantifiable environmental outcomes

BLOOMINGTON -The Soil and Water Outcomes Fund has announced a new partnership with the Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) and other groups to catalyze farmer adoption of conservation practices that generate verifiable carbon reductions and water quality improvements. In 2021, the Soil and Water Outcomes Fund will expand into Illinois starting in Bureau, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, Lee, McHenry and Will counties, targeting 20,000 acres of new conservation practice adoption.

that yield outcomes like carbon sequestration and water quality improvement. The environmental outcomes are verified using a combination of environmental modeling, in-field monitoring, and remote sensing. The water quality and carbon sequestration outcomes produced by farmers in Illinois are being purchased by a mix of public and private partners.

This partnership is a component of ISA's efforts to scale sustainable agriculture practices in a farmer-centric and outcomes-driven manner and helps ISA demonstrate the value of sustainability to Illinois soybean farmers.

"We are thrilled to bring the Soil and Water Outcomes Fund to Illinois farmers," said Adam Kiel, Soil and Water Outcomes Fund managing director and AgOutcomes vice president. "We hope farmers in Illinois see value in adding sustainable farming practices to their operations."

"In this new partnership with the Soil and Water Outcomes Fund, ISA is helping soybean farmers in these Illinois counties adopt new conservation practices," said Steve Pitstick, ISA District 2 Director from Maple Park. "By adopting and better measuring these practices, farmers will effectively reduce their carbon emissions, improve water quality, and receive financial incentives for doing so."

In 2021, the Soil and Water Outcomes Fund plans to expand to more than 100,000 acres of cropland across Iowa, Ohio and Illinois. This expansion will significantly increase opportunities for farmers to be compensated for implementing conservation practices that produce verified environmental outcomes. Farmers interested in enrollment should visit [www.theoutcomesfund.com](http://www.theoutcomesfund.com) to learn more or contact their Nutrien Ag Solutions or Ingredion representative.

The Soil and Water Outcomes Fund provides financial incentives directly to farmers who transition to on-farm conservation practices such as no till and cover crops

The Soil and Water Outcomes Fund is a partnership of AgOutcomes, a subsidiary of the Iowa Soybean Association, and ReHarvest Partners, a subsidiary of Quantified Ventures.

## Emergency alerts: Modern technology we hope to never use

MENDOTA - Imagine being awakened from a sound sleep by an obnoxious alert tone coming from your cell phone. That is what happened to Sheridan area residents this past week following a horrific double homicide.

abduction emergencies but early last Wednesday morning was the first time LaSalle County had used the WEA system. Sheriff Tom Templeton contacted the emergency management agency (EMA) and requested the alert to be sent warning residents in the Sheridan area to secure their residences and to call 911 with any suspicious activity in their neighborhood.

this consultation, the area to be warned is determined, the message developed, and the requested citizen response is developed. The EMA then inputs the information into a web-based program and the alert is sent. The alert can be issued for the entire county or as in last week's alert, it can be targeted to an approximate portion of the county.

The wireless emergency alert or WEA system was developed in 2012 through a collaboration between federal agencies and nationwide cellular carriers. The system allows the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency to issue alerts at the request of local first responder agencies.

It is important to understand how the system functions to see the benefits and limitations of wireless emergency alerts. In LaSalle County, a local first responder agency requests activation of the system by contacting the county's emergency management agency. During

Without getting too technical, the WEA is sent to the cellular towers that cover the warned area and sends a free text message to all cellular phones that are receiving a signal from those towers. The signal is active for the duration of

See ALERTS, Page A3

## EDUCATION BRIEFS

### U of I dean's list

CHAMPAIGN - Joshua Wiley of Mendota was named to the University of Illinois Dean's List in December.

Eligibility is limited to the top 20 percent of a student's college class or curriculum and students must complete at least 12 academic semester hours taken for a letter grade.

## G. Zimmerman to celebrate 90th birthday

ST. GEORGE, Utah - Gerry Zimmerman will be celebrating her 90th birthday. She was born April 4, 1931 in Wausau, Wis. to Ben and Esther (Riemer) Krohn.



She has five children, Mary Jean (Rich) Derreberry of Rock Falls, Jan (Mark) Warner of Urbandale, Iowa, Luci (Craig) Phalen of Missoula, Mont., Ce-

leste (Dennis) Walker of Geneva and Curt (Laurie) Zimmerman of Mendota.

She also has 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Birthday wishes may be sent to Gerry at: 950 S. 400 E., Apt. 237, St. George, UT 84770.

See Local News online at [WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM](http://WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM)

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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Abriendo Caminos family program for Hispanic health

MENDOTA - University of Illinois Extension is joining with the University of Illinois Family Resiliency Center to offer Abriendo Caminos, Clearing the Path to Hispanic Health. Abriendo Caminos is presented in Spanish for Hispanic families. As a family, you will work alongside volunteers and learn about healthy nutrition, the importance of physical activity, and family mealtime.

Abriendo Caminos begins on April 19 and will continue through May 24 via Zoom. Sessions take place from 5:30-6:45 p.m. To register for the program, please contact Erica Escatel at (815) 200-5751 or e-mail eescatel@illinois.edu.

Extensión de la Universidad de Illinois se une al Centro de Resiliencia Familiar de la Universidad de Illinois para ofrecer Abriendo Caminos, Clearing the Path to Hispanic Health. Buscamos familias de habla hispana para participar en el programa Abriendo Caminos. Como familia, trabajará junto con los voluntarios y aprenderá sobre: nutrición saludable, la importancia de la actividad física y la hora de comer en familia.

Abriendo Caminos comienza el 19 de abril al 24 de mayo de 5:30 a 6:45 pm a través de zoom. Para registrarse para participar, comuníquese con Erica Escatel al (815) 200-5751 o envíe un correo electrónico a eescatel@illinois.edu.

For more information, please contact Susan Glassman, Extension Educator, Nutrition & Wellness, University of Illinois Extension at (815) 224-0889.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Susan Glassman, Educadora de Extensión, Nutrición y Bienestar, Extensión de la Universidad de Illinois al (815) 224-0889.

## Extension offers free pressure canner testing

OGLESBY - Enjoy the freshness of produce all year long when you preserve your food safely. University of Illinois Extension offers free pressure canner gauge and seal testing at local Extension offices in Oglesby, Ottawa, Princeton and Henry.

Ensure your home canning is safe by having your gauge tested annually to make sure it is operating at the correct pressure. Inaccurate pressure can cause food to not be processed at a high enough temperature to kill harmful bacteria and toxins.

Testing this year will be done by calling Susan Glassman at (815) 224-0889 and scheduling a drop-off so your gauge and lid can be tested. Results will be given by phone and you may then pick up your equipment and have the peace-of-mind knowing you are preserving at the correct pressure and temperature.

## MEA honors former teacher Winnie Lovgren

MENDOTA - Former Mendota teacher Winifred "Winnie" Lovgren committed 46 years of her life to educating the children of our community. Winnie's legacy carries on through the thousands of "lady-bugs, fat cats, and queen bees" she taught.

This past week, members of the Mendota Education Association (MEA) presented Northbrook School with a flag in honor of Mrs. Lovgren's memory. Because of her passion for history, MEA believes this would make her incredibly proud.

In addition, a donation was made to the 1st Lutheran Church's Ohio School Buddy Bags Program, a cause Winnie championed as well. Helping children succeed in reaching their full potential was her lifelong pursuit, and her dedication will not be forgotten.



Tyler Pearce, Northbrook assistant principal, right, accepts a flag from Rachel Sabin, MEA president, left, and Brandon Scheppers, MEA member. The donation is a tribute to former longtime Mendota teacher Winnie Lovgren. (Photo contributed)

## Alerts

Continued from Page A2

the event and anyone that was originally outside of the warned area will receive the alert as they travel into the warned area. There is no registration necessary to receive these alerts. Most modern cellular phones are capable of receiving wireless emergency alerts. LaSalle County EMA advises residents that are unsure if they have emergency alerts activated on their phone to contact their wireless provider to ensure alerts are turned on.

Wednesday morning's alert elicited mostly positive responses but as with any technology, there are some limitations. First and foremost is the reliability of the cellular network. If your cell phone is turned off or is not receiving a signal from one of the identified cellular towers, it will not receive the alert. Second, the message

length is dictated by the type of cellular device that you own. Non-smart phones and older model phones are only capable of receiving a 90-character alert message, while newer model smart phones can receive 360-character text messages. Additionally, the provided message is designed to alert you to a situation and elicit a responsive action from the person receiving the alert, not provide details of the emergency event. Third, while the system is designed to geo-locate the warning area, Wednesday morning the county discovered that some people may receive the warning unintentionally. This was an outlier exception but in the interest of life safe-

ty, an inconvenient reality of modern technology.

Emergency alerting technology will continue to evolve. Future enhancements to the system will incorporate better geo-location of alerts and the integration of wireless alerting technology with the NOAA weather radio system.

LaSalle County EMA treats emergency alerting seriously. The agency has alerting authority using the federal emergency alert system and wireless emergency alerts for the following types of events: Civil Danger Warning, Civil Emergency Message, Evacuation Immediate, Fire Warning, Hazardous Materials Warning, Local Area Emergency,

Law Enforcement Warning, Nuclear Power Plant Warning, Radiological Hazard Warning, Shelter In Place Warning, and a 911 Telephone Outage Emergency.

Because not everyone owns a cell phone, first responder agencies may also request the LaSalle County EMA to send an emergency telephone notification to the land line telephones within a warned area. The emergency telephone alert uses enhanced 911 information and dials the identified home and business telephones.

More information can be found online by searching Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) or FEMA's wireless emergency alerts.

## CARL'S QUIZ

The Hula Hoop became a huge fad across America when it was first marketed by Wham-O in what year?

1.) 1948, 2.) 1958, 3.) 1968, 4.) 1978

The answer to last week's quiz is: White Castle, which opened its first location in 1921, is credited as the world's first fast food hamburger chain.

Answer next week in The Mendota Reporter and online at [www.mendotareporter.com](http://www.mendotareporter.com)

## Mendota Weather

March 24, 2021

### Seven Day Forecast

**Wednesday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 55 Low: 39

**Thursday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 51 Low: 35

**Friday**  
Scattered Rain  
High: 48 Low: 34

**Saturday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 55 Low: 42

**Sunday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 50 Low: 35

**Monday**  
Sunny  
High: 54 Low: 41

**Tuesday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 56 Low: 42

### Local UV Index

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

[www.WhatsOurWeather.com](http://www.WhatsOurWeather.com)

### Weather Trivia

How often does lightning strike the ground in the United States?

Answers: Between 25 to 30 million times each year.

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### In-Depth Forecast

Wednesday we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 55°, humidity of 69%. Southwest wind 13 to 21 mph. The record high temperature for Wednesday is 75° set in 1994. Expect mostly cloudy skies Wednesday night with an overnight low of 39°. South southwest wind 6 to 13 mph. The wind chill for Wednesday night could reach 36°. The record low for Wednesday night is 2° set in 1974.

**Last Week's Local Almanac**

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip	Rainfall
Monday	38	30	44/25	0.43"	0.87"
Tuesday	38	33	44/26	0.00"	0.58"
Wednesday	39	33	45/26	0.41"	0.29"
Thursday	47	34	45/26	0.03"	40.1°
Friday	51	31	46/27	0.00"	35.9°
Saturday	58	28	46/27	0.00"	+4.2°
Sunday	65	36	47/28	0.00"	

Data as reported from Peru, Ill.

### Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	Phase
Wednesday	6:52 a.m.	7:13 p.m.	2:28 p.m.	4:53 a.m.	New
Thursday	6:50 a.m.	7:14 p.m.	3:38 p.m.	5:31 a.m.	4/11
Friday	6:49 a.m.	7:15 p.m.	4:52 p.m.	6:05 a.m.	
Saturday	6:47 a.m.	7:16 p.m.	6:07 p.m.	6:35 a.m.	
Sunday	6:45 a.m.	7:17 p.m.	7:23 p.m.	7:03 a.m.	First
Monday	6:44 a.m.	7:18 p.m.	8:40 p.m.	7:31 a.m.	4/20
Tuesday	6:42 a.m.	7:19 p.m.	9:58 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	

### National Weather Summary This Week

The Northeast will see mostly cloudy skies with widespread rain, highest temperature of 65 in Huntington, Ind. The Southeast will experience partly to mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain and isolated thunderstorms, highest temperature of 86 in Immokalee, Fla. The central United States will see mostly cloudy skies with isolated showers and thunderstorms, highest temperature of 83 in Laredo, Texas. In the Northwest there will be partly cloudy skies with isolated rain, highest temperature of 63 in Kennewick, Wash. The Southwest will see mostly clear skies with the highest temperature of 79 in Yuma, Ariz.

### Weather History

**March 24, 1989** - Low pressure off the coast of Virginia brought heavy rain to the mid-Atlantic Coast states and heavy snow to the northern Appalachians, Cape Hatteras, N.C. was soaked with 52 inches of rain in 24 hours, and snowfall totals in Vermont ranged up to 12 inches.

**March 25, 1948** - For the second time in less than a week, airplanes were destroyed by a tornado at Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City. A March 20th tornado destroyed 50 planes, and the March 25th tornado destroyed another 35.

Friday, April 2, 2021



The following financial institutions will close at noon and reopen Saturday, April 3, 2021

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# OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

## Marcia J. Baker

MENDOTA - Marcia J. Baker, 74, of Mendota, passed away unexpectedly March 21, 2021 at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota.

There will be no services. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Marcia was born Nov. 27, 1946 in Chicago to Herman and Ida Weinberg. She married Joseph Baker on Oct. 31, 1991 in Ottawa.

Survivors include her husband of Mendota; two sons Dean, (Angie) Bailey of Lenoir City, Tenn. and Brian Ziblud of Streator; one daughter, Rebecca Dickerson of Oak Ridge, Tenn.; two step sons, Eric (Nichole) Baker of Peru and Kyle (Krystal) Hanson of Oglesby; one step daughter, Crystal (Lee) Simmons of Spring Valley; one brother, Edward Kahn of Mundelein, Wis.; and 12 grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Herman Weinberg and her mother, Ida Kahn; one brother; and one granddaughter, Jannai Dickerson.

Marcia worked for Sullivan's Foods in Mendota for over five years. She loved attending to her flower garden and loved her cockatiel, George and her Yorkie, Macksy.

Memorials may be directed to the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at [www.merrittfh.com](http://www.merrittfh.com).



## Elverta M. Eller

AMBOY - Elverta M. "Verdie" Eller, 94, of Amboy died March 17, 2021 at Heritage Health in Mendota.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on March 22 at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Burial was at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy. Visitation was from noon to 2 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home.

Elverta was born Sept. 8, 1926 in Amboy to Clarence and Bertha (Rogers) Dewey. She married William H. "Bill" Eller on Dec. 28, 1950 in Amboy. He preceded her in death on May 18, 2012.

Survivors include one granddaughter, Dawn Conway of Peru and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband; one daughter, Karen Conway; six brothers, Orville, Earl, Clarence, Kenneth, Roy and Virgil Dewey; and two sisters, Dorothy Bolthaus and Thelma Smith.

Elverta worked at the Amboy Rug Factory and at Beggs Foods prior to her retirement. She enjoyed crocheting and baking, and she always had chocolate chip cookies at her house.

A memorial has been established to Heritage Health in Mendota. Online condolences may be sent at [www.thejonesfh.com](http://www.thejonesfh.com).



## In-person pesticide applicator test date set

PRINCETON - The Illinois Department of Agriculture will offer an in-person pesticide applicator test in Princeton on Wednesday, April 7.

Two testing sessions will be held, 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m., and take place at the Becker Building, 850 Thompson St., Princeton. All exams will be offered. Only 20 people will be allowed to attend each session.

The in-person sign up page can be reached at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Pesticides/Pages/in-person-testing.aspx>. Look for the Princeton listing on the page and click either the A.M. session link or the P.M. session link to sign up for the session.

Anyone who needs a training booklet can pick one up at the Extension office for \$15 plus tax or order it at <https://pubsplus.illinois.edu/collections/best-selling/products/illinois-pesticide-applicator-training-manual-private-applicator>.

## A virtual fireside chat with author John Sandford at LaSalle Library

LA SALLE - On Wednesday, April 14 at 7 p.m., the LaSalle Public Library will virtually host New York Times bestselling author, John Sandford, in partnership with the Westchester Public Library and Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS).

In this virtual program presented via Zoom, Sandford will be interviewed by author Carl Hiaasen and will discuss his newest novel, "Ocean Prey."

The program is free and open to the public but has limited virtual seats available. If interested in attending, registration forms can be filled out online at <https://bit.ly/2ZXnLOJ> or in person at the LaSalle Library. The registration forms will be located downstairs at the Youth Services desk.

Registration for this program will be open through Wednesday, April 7. All registered attendees will receive the access link to the program by e-mail closer to the event date. For more information, please call the Library at (815) 233-2341.

**About the Book** - Fan-favorite heroes Lucas Davenport and Virgil Flowers join forces in "Ocean Prey," the latest propulsive and electrifying adventure from #1 New York Times bestselling author John Sandford. In the 31st entry in the Prey series and the 13th book to star Virgil Flowers, the killings of three federal officers at sea ignite an investigation into a maritime drug cartel - with deadly consequences. G. P. Putnam's Sons is thrilled to publish this latest installment on April 13, 2021.

**About the Author** - John Sandford is the pseudonym for the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist John Camp. He is the author of 29 Prey novels; four Kidd novels; 12 Virgil Flowers novels; three YA novels coauthored with his wife, Michele Cook; and three other books.

## Kishwaukee to keep tuition rates flat for next school year

MALTA - Tuition rates will remain the same at Kishwaukee College for the 2021-2022 academic year. This month, Kishwaukee College Board of Trustees unanimously voted to maintain the current tuition rate of \$147 per credit hour.

The decision aligns with the College's mission of improving lives through quality, affordable education. The fiscal responsibility practiced by the Board and College leadership allows Kish to maintain its tuition rate during this challenging period. Through financial competence, the College has worked to keep costs down while enhancing the programs and services offered to suit the changing needs

of the community.

"It has always been our goal to keep tuition as low as possible for our students. We understand it can be a struggle at this time to pay for college expenses and we are pleased to be able to maintain affordable tuition for our students this year," said Bob Johnson, Chair of Kishwaukee College Board of Trustees.

The College is looking forward to more activity on campus this fall and is planning to offer additional classes in-person. The credit course schedule for summer and fall is now available online and registration will begin online Monday, April 5. For more information, visit [www.kish.edu](http://www.kish.edu).

## Annual report: Not much change in 2020 farmland values

CHAMPAIGN - "Not much has changed" was the basic message regarding prices paid for Illinois farmland presented during the 2021 Farmland Values Conference held as a webinar and sponsored by the Illinois Society of Professional Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers.

"Statewide data suggests we witnessed mild increases in values for excellent, good, and fair soil types. A stable, yet slightly decreased, value was experienced amongst average soil types," said Luke Worrell, AFM, ALC, Worrell Land Services, Jacksonville, overall chair of the Farmland Values Survey and Conference.

"The largest increase was in 'Class A' farms, as high-quality farmland continues to carry the flag across the state," he continued. "Findings suggest that the table has been set for what should be an exciting 2021 in Illinois' agricultural economy."

Worrell cited three economic occurrences that played a role in the state of agriculture today.

**COVID-19** - He noted that the bulk of land sales traditionally take place from

October through March. "The virus and its impacts hit right when the market typically slows on volume of transactions anyway. By the time late September and October rolled around, commodity prices were on the rise and we had somewhat acclimated to our pandemic surroundings."

**Low Interest Rates** - Worrell noted that interest rates continued to be incredibly low, allowing borrowers to be more aggressive than they normally would in acquisitions. This dynamic continues to be extremely supportive to land values.

**Government Policy** - "An enormous amount of money was paid out through various government programs in 2020. By the time commodities showed strength late in 2020, many operations had already been substantially buoyed by lingering MFP payments that came in during the first quarter, in addition to CFAP and CFAP2 payments," he added. "The recent transition to the Biden administration will be closely observed as it deals with tariffs, trade and other issues that need clarity. It is a global economy in which the development and/or resolution of issues in Asia, Europe, Africa and South America affects all of us in Illinois."

Average sales prices of

completed sales across the state remained stable. Excellent category land averaged \$10,870 per acre in 2020 compared to \$10,435 in 2019. Good category land was \$8,446 compared to \$8,335 in 2019. Average was \$6,409 (\$6,502); Fair was \$5,353 (\$5,090); Recreation land was \$3,689 (\$3,904). "These are statewide averages," he stressed. "One would need to look through the entire Report to see the region-by-region statistics."

Upward Change Forecast for 2021

In a survey of farm managers and appraisers, 89 percent look for prices paid for farmland to increase during 2021, with 52 percent seeing increases of between 5 percent and 10 percent and higher. A scant 9 percent predict values will stay the same with even fewer predicting reduced values. Most cite modest expansion of the Illinois agricultural economy. However, 58 percent forecast modest increases in interest rates which could put a damper on sales activity. "Stable" was the word used most often to describe general sales activity.

Optimism was the key word on prices paid for cash rents with modest increases seen for all land types except Average and Fair quality properties. In the study conducted by Gary Schnit-

key, Ph.D., University of Illinois, for excellent quality farmland, traditional crop shares had average income of \$229 per acre, cash rent had \$250 per acre, and custom farming had \$300 per acre. Across all productivities, crop share had the lowest returns. Custom farming had higher returns than the other arrangements.

Overall, farm managers were asked their expectations of 2022 cash rent level:

- 79 percent expect 2022 cash rents to increase over 2021 levels,
- 11 percent expect 2022 cash rents to be the same as in 2021.

Farm managers expect the agricultural economy to remain strong in 2021, according to Schnitkey. Twenty percent expect 2021 to be a better year than in 2020 while 67 percent expected 2021 to be the same as 2020. Thirteen percent expect 2021 to be a worse year than in 2020. "Overall, 2020 was a good income year in agriculture."

The Land Values Conference is an annual event sponsored by the Illinois Society of Professional Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. Traditionally the event is an in-person activity but has been offered as a webinar the past two years. The organization intends to return to an on-site conference in 2022.

## Mobile home taxes coming due April 1

OTTAWA - The mobile home tax bills for LaSalle County are due on Thursday, April 1.

Payment by check, made out to LaSalle County Collector, can be sent or delivered to: LaSalle County Treasurer, 707 E. Etna Road, PO Box 1560, Ottawa, IL 61350.

It is especially important that the mobile

home local services tax be paid in a timely fashion. The penalty for delinquency is \$25 per month beginning the day after due date.

If mobile home owners have questions about the local services tax, they should contact the LaSalle County Treasurer's Office at (815) 434-8219.

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**The Mendota Reporter**  
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Press box at Mendota High School baseball field.  
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Tess Fleming  
Julie Burkardt  
Lisa Quest

# LOCAL AND AREA

## Reopen

Continued from Page A1

For businesses, offices, retail stores and fitness centers, capacity will increase from 50 percent to 60 percent. Amusement parks and museums can increase from 25 percent to 60 percent. Theaters and zoos can have up to 60 percent capacity as well.

But the state can revert back to an earlier phase if it "experiences an increasing trend" in COVID-19 transmission rates and hospitalizations over a 10-day period.

If the numbers hold steady for 28 days in the bridge phase, the state must reach a 50 percent vaccination rate for residents age 16 and over in order to enter Phase 5. Currently, about 28 percent of that population is vaccinated.

"Combining these decreasing trends and cases and hospitalizations and deaths, with increasing vaccinations is clearly a recipe for ending this pandemic," Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said. "We cannot lose our momentum. To do this, we will continue to wear our masks."

Masks will continue to be mandatory in the state until the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determine that they are no longer needed, the governor said.

Vaccine information and locations can be found at [coronavirus.illinois.gov](https://coronavirus.illinois.gov), and Ezike noted the state has a hotline to make appointments for those without internet access at 833-621-1280.

"Deliveries continue to rise and are expected to increase by millions more this spring," Pritzker said. "With the increased supply, Illinois is now averaging 100,000 vaccinations a day. That's about 1 percent of all adults in Illinois getting a shot each day, and I expect that number to continue to grow in the weeks ahead."

Pritzker said the state received 109,000 doses in its first vaccine shipment in December, while last week the state received more than 800,000 doses.

"Based on current projections we expect that that number will surpass 1 million doses in April," he said, crediting President Joe Biden's administration.

Pritzker also said there will be "additional announcements to come" regarding other populations that will be eligible for the vaccine ahead of the April 12 expansion. Chicago, the governor said, received separate shipments from the state and can make their own determinations as to when eligibility can expand.

## Vaccine

Continued from Page A1

That list was expanded Jan. 25 to include all individuals over age 65 as well as frontline essential workers, including first responders, K-12 teachers and other public-facing industries. It was expanded again on Feb. 25 to include anyone age 16 and over with certain high-risk conditions or disabilities.

During a news conference in Belleville on March 19, Gov. JB Pritzker said a little more than 60 percent of seniors age 65 and over had received at least one vaccine dose. Under a plan announced earlier in the week, when that number reaches 70 percent, and as long as certain other metrics are met, the state will enter what he is calling a "bridge phase" to full reopening of the economy that will allow for larger capacity limits in public gatherings.

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

## Tax

Continued from Page A1

automatically avoid interest and penalties on the taxes paid by May 17.

Individual taxpayers do not need to file any forms or call the IRS to qualify for this automatic federal tax filing and payment relief. Individual taxpayers who need additional time to file beyond the May 17 deadline can request a filing extension until Oct. 15 by filing Form 4868 through their tax professional, tax software or using the Free File link on [IRS.gov](https://irs.gov). Filing Form 4868 gives taxpayers until Oct. 15 to file their 2020 tax return but does not grant an extension of time to pay taxes due. Taxpayers should pay their federal income tax due by May 17, 2021, to avoid interest and penalties.

The IRS urges taxpayers who are due a refund to file as soon as possible. Most tax refunds associated with e-filed returns are issued within 21 days.

This relief does not apply to estimated tax payments that are due on April 15, 2021. These payments are still due on April 15. Taxes must be paid as taxpayers earn or receive income during the year, either through withholding or estimated tax payments. In general, estimated tax payments are made quarterly to the IRS by people whose income isn't subject to income tax withholding, including self-employment income, interest, dividends, alimony or rental income. Most taxpayers automatically have their taxes withheld from their paychecks and submitted to the IRS by their employer.

### State tax returns

The federal tax filing deadline postponement to May 17, 2021, only applies to individual federal income returns and tax (including tax on self-employment income) payments otherwise due April 15, 2021, not state tax payments or deposits or payments of any other type of federal tax. Taxpayers also will need to file income tax returns in 42 states plus the District of Columbia. State filing and payment deadlines vary and are not always the same as the federal filing deadline. The IRS urges taxpayers to check with their state tax agencies for those details.

## IVCC partnering up to address teacher shortage

OGLESBY—Illinois Valley Community College is partnering with Illinois State University and four community colleges to address the teacher shortage, board members learned March 11.

IVCC, Heartland, Spoon River, Carl Sandburg, and Illinois Central are part of ISU's "CommuniTeach: Community Partner Pathway Program" cultivating local talent to become teachers who return to their communities.

"We continue to hear about the problems Illinois superintendents are having filling open teaching positions and finding substitute teachers," IVCC President Jerry Corcoran said. "This will increase access for place-bound students to complete a bachelor's degree and teacher licensure through their community college with limited trips to ISU," he said.

"ISU's coursework is ideal for part-time students since much of it will be online and hybrid with face-to-face instruction just two-to-three Saturdays per semester. It's perfect for working professionals and nontraditional students," Corcoran said.

Next fall, CommuniTeach students begin community college courses. ISU classes start in fall 2022. The first graduates will be teaching in 2025.

In other business, the board approved a maintenance certificate developed in consultation with local trade unions, career centers and industry partners.

The short-term, 16-credit, seven-course certificate will help students expedite entry into the workforce with courses in maintenance, welding and electricity, among others.

"Students will learn skills demanded by trade unions and entry-level skills required for maintenance technicians," said Dean of Workforce Development Shane Lange.

Courses include wiring, safety, rigging, pipefitting, inspection, technical math and welding.

The board also approved:

- The \$108,700 bid of Lite Construction of Montgomery for Fireplace Lounge accessibility upgrades. The lounge's wheelchair lift will be replaced with an ADA-compliant ramp, removal of the gas fireplace and adding stairs to the exterior deck.

- The \$288,165 bid of Tri-Electronics of Hammond, Ind., for key card access upgrades.

- Inactivation of the Therapeutic Massage program due to enrollments unable to match the costs associated with hiring a full-time coordinator. Students in the program not graduating this summer will be offered a one-year 'teach-out' to complete their studies. The program, founded in 2000, provided the district with hundreds of massage therapists.

- Inactivation of the Fitness Center director position effective June 30 and reassignment of Fitness Center director Tony Ruda to full-time instructional duties. The Center has been closed since March 2020 when the pandemic forced most classes online.

- The administration's plan to reevaluate faculty staffing needs across the college "and a plan presented by Dec. 31 that matches course-selection offerings with student needs."

- Closed session minutes from Feb. 11.

Trustees learned:

- Non-tenured faculty renewed for 2021-22 are: Nicholas Fish, EMS; David Garrison, math; Stephen Gibson, industrial maintenance and electricity; Richard Marko, automotive technology; Nancy McDonnell, cybersecurity; Theresa Molln, welding; Rick Pretzsch, economics; Charles Raimondi, electricity and electronics; Kaity Ritter, Certified Medical Assistant; Amber Robertson, nursing; and Anthony Sondgeroth, welding.

- Cashier Jill Hejl has been hired as an administrative assistant in Continuing Education.

- Developmental reading/writing instructor Kathryn Gibbs retired Jan. 1. "Being a part of IVCC when I was a student and also for the past 20 years (as an instructor) has provided some of my best life experiences and has touched me deeply."

- In the latest data available, IVCC's student loan default rate dropped to 7.9 percent from 8.9 percent.

- The IVCC Foundation awarded \$343,900 to 299 students this year compared to \$339,780 to 271 students in 2019-20 and \$334,100 to 286 students in 2018-19.



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The Mullis Farm is located at the southeast edge of Shabbona, IL (Shabbona is located approximately 15 miles southwest of DeKalb, IL or 25 miles northeast of Mendota, IL). The property is further described as being in the Southwest Quarter of Section 14 and the Southeast Quarter of Section 15, all in Township 38 North, Range 3 East, Shabbona Township, DeKalb County, IL.

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# OPINION

## The Mendota Reporter

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

## The jury selection process

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD – “Jury selection is like putting a penny in a gumball machine; you have no idea what you are going to get.”

At least that is the contention of retired circuit judge Casey Stengle of Moline.

The world’s attention is focused on the jury selection taking place in the Minneapolis courtroom where Derek Chauvin, a former police officer, is accused of murder in the death of George Floyd.

Of course, lawyers do everything they can to eliminate the randomness by trying to pick jurors who they think will vote their way.

I have covered enough jury selections over the years to have become a bit cynical about the process.

For one thing, courts are looking for people who haven’t already formed an opinion on whether someone is guilty or innocent.

But who on planet Earth hasn’t already watched that video of Chauvin kneeling on Floyd’s neck and formed an opinion?

When I first started covering trials, I was working as a reporter in Galveston, Texas. An old judge named Ed Harris took me under his wing and explained how courts really work.

Harris had served in the Texas Legislature for decades before being elected a judge. He often ate shelled peanuts in his chambers, took afternoon naps on the bench and could never remember if crack was made out of cocaine or heroin. (He shared that bit of confusion with me after I’d seen him sentence dozens of people for possession of crack cocaine.)

But one observation he made that seems to hold true is that the smartest person in the pool never gets picked.

Daniel Fultz, a criminal defense attorney for Brown, Hay and Stephens, explained it this way, “Let’s say you have a mostly blue-collar jury and the town’s doctor somehow gets on too. You can just about bet he’ll be elected foreman and he’ll lead the other jurors to a verdict. If one person is going to choose the verdict, you might as well have the judge decide.”

During my time in Texas, I got to know a young defense attorney named Robert Hirschhorn. He has gone on to be one of the top jury consultants in the nation. He picked the juries that acquitted William Kennedy Smith, Robert Durst and George Zimmerman.

The jury selection strategy in the George Floyd case would be much different than in most trials.

“Everything’s reversed,” Hirschhorn said. “In a typical criminal case, the defendant is looking for more liberal jurors. And the prosecution is looking for pro-law enforcement types. But when you have a cop on trial, especially in a high-profile case, everything gets flipped around. That means that the defense is looking for as many white, law enforcement-oriented, conservative jurors, that they can find – and they don’t want a liberal anywhere near this case. The prosecution wants as many black jurors as they can get and as many liberal or moderates as they can get.”

So, what question should a lawyer ask to determine an ideal juror?

“I’d ask of the last four presidents -- Trump, Obama, George W. Bush and Clinton -- who did you like the best? Jurors who say ‘Obama or Clinton’ are who the prosecution wants and those who say ‘Trump’ are the ideal for the defense in a cop case,” Hirschhorn said.

Jurors aren’t always as well-informed as one might expect them to be.

When I was a young reporter, I had written a story on a murder case where the defendant was being retried after his first trial ended in a mistrial.

It seems a witness was a bit too honest in the first trial. A prosecutor asked why he was frightened of the defendant and the man said, “Because he has killed before.”

It was a truthful answer, but not something the judge wanted jurors to hear.

Consequently, a mistrial occurred.

The day jury selection was to begin in the second trial, a story I had written appeared on the front page explaining why the man was being retried for murder.

The judge on the case worried that his jury pool had been contaminated.

So, each potential juror was brought into the courtroom alone and questioned about what they remembered reading in the newspaper that morning.

One older woman sat primly on the witness stand and was grilled by the lawyers.

The interrogation by the defense lawyer went like this: “Ma’am, did you read the Galveston Daily News this morning?”

“Yes.”

“Did you read a story about a jury being selected for a murder trial?”

“Well, yes -- but I only read the first sentence of the story.”

At this point the defense attorney nearly snarled. “You knew you were being called today for jury service in a murder trial and you saw a story on the front page of the newspaper about jury selection for a murder trial and you expect us to believe you only read the first sentence of the article? How can that be, ma’am?”

The woman shifted uncomfortably on the witness stand and explained: “I got to the courthouse early and saw the newspaper machine out front. I started to read the story through the little window in the machine, but I didn’t have a quarter to buy the paper.”

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



## Candidates’ Night includes broadcast

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from March 25, 1998.)

By Jessica Nashold

In the month of March, 25 years ago, The Mendota Reporter was published by James W. Terry of Sandwich. Michael D. O’Connor was starting his second year as editor and William R. Leiser, former Reporter co-owner, was advertising manager. The Reporter was comprised of two 16-page sections. It cost 15 cents.

There were two candidates for mayor – the incumbent Louis Koopersmith and a challenger, Murray Reeser. At a Candidates’ Night on March 26, 1973 in the high school auditorium, they, as well as three candidates for the office of city clerk and a number of aldermanic prospects, answered questions from voters. The session was broadcast on Channel 2 Cable TV.

Koopersmith, completing a third term, explained that a \$600,000 bond issue had been forced on the city when voters passed a referendum approving it. He outlined projected improvements for the city. Reeser, a first-time candidate, had a different approach –

**What I’m concerned about – and much concerned about – is selling Mendota to the world.**

In the election, Reeser prevailed, although after one term in office he was succeeded by Koopersmith, elected to a fourth term. Koopersmith died while in office.

\*\*\*

An Educational Priorities committee of five presented an eight-page report on suggested action to the District 289 school board. Chaired by Harry Conkey, a board member who was resigning, the committee included another board member, Ron Moeller, Margo Lewis, Evelyn Lamps and Michael Castiglia.

One of the proposed changes was conversion of the Northbrook library into a learning center, with cassette tape players and viewers as well as other material to encourage independent study. Teacher would be involved in planning this center.

\*\*\*

Mendota Education Association with members in both District 280 and District 289, began negotiations with both boards on a new contract.

\*\*\*

The grade school board had planned

## Backtracks & Sidetracks

to auction the Troy Grove school, no longer used for school purposes, but were persuaded to let voters decide whether to go the auction route or petition to have a referendum on the ballot, authorizing sale of the school to the village of Troy Grove for \$1. The sale would excuse District 289 from legal responsibility for the property. A referendum was placed on the ballot and passed by a vote of 853-118.

\*\*\*

Herb Goslin offered public thanks to volunteers who helped him move “the thousands of items” from his store at Main and Washington to a new location a few doors west on Washington. Said Herb –

**I will be forever grateful. Thank you.**

\*\*\*

A sketch of a proposed granite monument to honor Mendota’s war dead in World Wars I & II, the Korean conflict and Vietnam was published in the March 21, 1973 issue of The Reporter. Both American Legion Post 540 and VFW Post 4079 were raising funds for the project, which would cost \$2,400. The city cleaned the site in Library Park of brush, and volunteers were prepared to do the digging and cement work. Mendota Monument would secure the granite and engrave the names of the war dead.

Jack Tower, spokesman for the project, asked that the city change the name of the park to Veterans Park. The council gave its park committee power to act on the request. Donations to the fund were being accepted at the Legion Post on North Main Street, the National Bank of Mendota and First State Bank.

\*\*\*

The post office Sunday hours were cut to only two, from 4-6 p.m., beginning March 25, 1973. Mail was no longer received at the post office on Sunday morning.

\*\*\*

A building best remembered as the Feik coal office on Main Street was bulldozed by the Faber brothers to clear

the site in March 1973. It had been built in 1913 by George Feik, who took his son, Elmer, as partner in 1915. The Feik Coal Co. with the slogan “Feik For Fuel,” continued in business until Elmer retired in 1956. Between 1961 and 1966, Hubert Crow conducted an insurance business there.

\*\*\*

A brass advertising sign for E. Munson, Optician, which had been embedded in the sidewalk on the north side of Washington Street near Main, was returned to the Munson family. The sign featured an eyeglass frame as well as lettering. Munson operated a jewelry store as well as a service in optometry and later moved the business to the south side of Washington Street, first in the building now occupied by Steele’s Jewelry and then in the present Barr’s Shoes location.

\*\*\*

A Linda O’Connor feature on Mendota’s four living ex-mayors included pictures of Jacob Spanier (1936-41), Les Oester (1941-45), Glenn Momeny (1945-53) and Christ Troupis (1953-61). Spanier related how he had saved the Snyder Grove property for the city by preventing its sale for back taxes. Oester had coped with war problems throughout his administration. Momeny took office right after the floor of 1945 and was happy that all departments of city government were “in the black” when he left office. Troupis started his first term during the Centennial Year of 1953 and racked up numerous improvements, including betterment of 150 blocks of dirt streets.

\*\*\*

A full page in The Reporter advertised Mendota as a Crossroads for Shopping, Industry and Service. The page listed as sponsors six furniture and floor covering dealers, six appliance and TV dealers, and six dry cleaners and laundries, including Laundromat operators.

**Make Mendota Your “Crossroads For Better Living.”**

\*\*\*

SIDETRACKS – Have you checked the box of pictures at The Reporter, slated to be disposed of on April 1? There are wedding pictures, school pictures, baby pictures – some dating back to the early 1990s. Most were originally used in The Reporter.

## COVID relief bill: Bad policy, bad faith

By Rich Lowry

Joe Biden has signed what may well end up being the biggest accomplishment of his presidency, an enormous \$1.9 trillion COVID relief bill.

With his other priorities likely to molder in the Senate, the spending will probably stand as a signature statement of Biden’s approach to governance -- and it should be a damning one.

The legislation is a misnomer; it is neither a COVID nor a relief bill. Only a tiny portion of the spending in the bill goes toward vaccinations and other priorities directly related to the pandemic.

Much of the rest of the spending is not well-suited, or even designed, to respond to current economic conditions, which are increasingly favorable.

Democrats are telling themselves that it’s like 1933, when we were in the midst of a depression, whereas it’s more like 1983, when we were coming out of a punishing recession.

Or to put it another way, the Biden bill is reacting to the wrong spring. It is no longer the cataclysmic spring of 2020, with the economy shuttered and nothing to fight the virus except social distancing and masks, but the much more hopeful spring of 2021, with the economy opening back up, COVID cases steeply declining and vaccinations ramping up massively.

Jobless claims have decreased, and personal incomes are higher than when the pandemic started. Both the Congressional Budget Office and Goldman Sachs are projecting rapid economic growth in 2021. As states open back up, nearly 20% of the U.S. population has received at least one vaccination shot.

This isn’t to say that all is well. There is an estimated \$420 billion hole in the economy, although, as even center-left critics of the bill have noted, you don’t need a \$1.9 trillion bill to fill it.

The latest bout of spending is spread around willy-nilly on Democratic priorities and constituencies.

Take public education, where Democratic-allied teacher unions dominate. It’s not clear why any additional spending is necessary, given that tens of billions of education fund-

ing from prior COVID relief bills are still unspent, even as many districts have already begun to reopen for in-person instruction.

Nonetheless, the bill spends roughly another \$130 billion on K-12 education, which will be spread out over years. The CBO projects more spending for elementary and secondary education will occur in fiscal year 2026 than this fiscal year.

The \$350 billion in aid to states and localities comes despite state and local tax revenue being down only a tick through much of 2020 compared with the year before. According to widely cited Moody’s economist Mark Zandi, the state and local funding gap will be roughly \$60 billion through fiscal 2022. Still, states and localities will be showered with money, after more than \$500 billion in aid to states and localities last year.

The bill spends \$86 billion bailing out union-negotiated multi-employer pension plans.

Transportation gets tens of billions of new spending, which by its nature doesn’t happen quickly, and more than \$30 billion goes to expanding Obamacare, a long-term Democratic policy goal.

It’s doubtful that the checks of \$1,400 to individuals are necessary; it is more supply -- i.e., businesses being closed or supply chains disrupted -- than demand that is hampering the economy now.

The continued elevated unemployment payments make unemployment more lucrative than employment for many people, and will discourage a return to work at the margins.

For all that, the bill is popular. From where Biden sits, why not spend as much as possible under the rubric of “COVID relief”? To paraphrase Rahm Emanuel, a pandemic is a terrible thing to waste.

Assuming the bill doesn’t cause some disastrous unintended consequence, it will allow Biden to take credit for a roaring economic recovery that is already building.

This might be shrewd politics, but it is not evidence-based or bipartisan governance. It’s getting while the getting is good, and assuming that no one will notice.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Governor talks budget, executive authority, relationship with lawmakers

By **JERRY NOWICKI**  
*Capitol News Illinois*

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker says he will consider ideas for directing hundreds of millions of new dollars toward K-12 education in the upcoming fiscal year, but proponents of such spending must offer up ways to cut government spending or raise necessary revenues elsewhere.

He made those comments in an interview with Capitol News Illinois, one of several interviews he did with news organizations to mark one year since the COVID-19 pandemic changed daily life for residents of Illinois and beyond.

"If somebody proposes an idea for spending new money...or continuing the tax expenditures of corporate welfare, I'm open to conversations and discussions about that," Pritzker said regarding his proposed state budget. "But they've got to tell me what else it is that they want to cut or where they're going to come up with revenue to make sure that we can balance the budget."

Pritzker also discussed whether the pandemic has affected his relationship with lawmakers and whether his use of executive authority over the past year has redefined the powers of the governorship.

He said while some Republicans have "politicized" the pandemic, he believes he and Democrats in the General Assembly have a united focus as to where money should be spent.

"I think we all have the same goals here," he said. "And what we want to do is make sure we fund education properly, that we do everything we can for social

services and providing health care for people across the state. And then fiscal responsibility is something we all have to be focused on."

Still, he said, the pandemic has made budgeting difficult, and the state should be careful when allocating more than \$7 billion in funding it will receive from the American Rescue Plan, a recent pandemic relief package passed by the federal government.

Pritzker said the federal funds should be treated as a one-time infusion that shouldn't be seen as a replacement for the base revenues needed to maintain state programs. The state has borrowed more than \$3 billion from the Federal Reserve in response to the pandemic in previous fiscal years, and Pritzker said repaying those loans is a priority.

"We have to make sure we pay the bills, any bills that are owed as a result of COVID," he said. "And then I think we need to focus our dollars on igniting the economy, making sure that we're doing everything we can to get people back to work and to attract businesses and get businesses going. All of that is, I think, incumbent upon us with these dollars."

He also warned the state will have "lingering expenses and expenditures as a result of COVID" in upcoming fiscal years.

"These are going to typically be health care related. And so we just need to account for that as we look at what to do with the dollars that are being provided," he said.

Conversations are already ongoing with lawmakers as to how to allocate the funding, he said. The money

must be allocated by the end of the year but can be spent until 2024, the governor said.

Pritzker also touched on his desired changes to the corporate tax code, which are necessary to balance his proposed budget.

The tax changes include a temporary cap on net operating loss deductions that is expected to net more than \$300 million, canceling a planned phaseout of the corporate franchise tax to net \$30 million, and ending lower tax rates for foreign-sourced dividends to bring in more than \$100 million.

There are six other corporate changes as well, which will require action from lawmakers.

When asked if Democratic lawmakers are on board with the changes, Pritzker said most of the resistance has come from "the business lobbyist groups, like the Chamber of Commerce, like the Manufacturers Association, and no doubt, they put pressure on lawmakers on both sides of the aisle."

"They're very powerful, they have money. And they can, you know, lead legislators to even vote for things that are against their interests or against the interests of their constituents. But I think the most important thing is that we've got to balance the budget," he said.

Pritzker first issued a stay-at-home order one year

ago and has since issued dozens of executive orders in response to the pandemic. Asked if his use of executive authority has redefined the governorship, Pritzker downplayed the idea.

"Well, I think it's precisely what past governors have done, as you've seen in the past, when there's been a flood, for example, you know, floods don't end at 30 days, floods end whenever the flood recedes," he said. "And the same thing is true about coronavirus. You know, we've had to react to it...this is the most unusual thing that anybody's ever seen in the history of the United States in terms of an emergency, including the

pandemic in 1918.

"It's important to recognize that, you know, how we handled it when the legislature was not in session and chose not to be in session was to do what other governors have done, which is treat it like an emergency, do whatever it is that we needed to do to save lives," he added.

He also noted that with existing vaccine infrastructure he believes the state will be able to open vaccinations up to all Illinoisans by May 1 or even sooner, a goal set by President Joe Biden earlier this month.

"I feel very confident that we can meet that date. And I think we might be able to do a little bit better," Pritzker said.



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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Hollywood

**By Tony Rizzo**  
**HOLLYWOOD** -- The name of the game is "tried in the court of public opinion." I watched part one of the four-part HBO film "Allen v. Farrow," and learned it's not a court case but a documentary that his supporters say defames Allen. Mia Farrow and Woody Allen began their intimate relationship in 1980, although they never lived together. In 1992 Mia found nude photos of her adopted daughter (with Andre Previn), Soon-Yi, taken by Allen. Mia and Woody's intimate relationship actually ended with her son, Ronan Farrow's, birth.



W. Allen

It may have been the end of their intimate relationship, but they still somehow made films together, 13 in all. Coincidentally, when Allen publicly professed his love for Soon-Yi (he was 56 and she was 21), it also was when the sexual abuse charges began against

him. In 1993, Justice Elliott Wilk rejected allegations of any sexual abuse. The New York Child Welfare Agency's 14-month investigation concluded there was no credible evidence of abuse.

In 2014, when Allen was honored with the Cecil B. DeMille Award, Mia and Ronan Farrow posted disparaging remarks about him on Twitter. In 2014, Mia's daughter, Dylan Farrow, allowed The New York Times to publish excerpts from a letter restating allegations against Allen and calling out fellow actors who worked in his films. Allen, also in The New York Times, denied ever molesting Dylan. In 2018, Moses Farrow published a personal blog post, "A Son Speaks Out," supporting Allen and disputing Dylan's story. Many insiders say they've seen enough and won't watch the rest.

It's another case of no real proof, yet Allen, who has maintained his innocence throughout, is still being vilified. Is Mia Farrow acting like a woman scorned? Can Woody Allen keep making films or will actors refuse

to work with him ... that's another story entirely!

\*\*\*

Two other directors have faced similar circumstances. Roman Polanski, a fugitive in the U.S. since he was 43 because of a 1997 statutory rape case, admits that he had "unlawful sexual intercourse" with 13-year-old Samantha Geimer (her mother consented). Polanski bemoans: "I pleaded guilty, I went to jail. I was locked up for a year, in Zurich, awaiting extradition, I did five times more than I was promised to do." He continues to direct films and win awards in Europe.

A third director, Brett Ratner (the "Rush Hour" film series and "X-Men: The Last Stand"), accused of sexual misconduct by Olivia Munn and six other women, has announced he'll direct a biopic about the R&B duo Milli Vanilli (stripped of their Grammy for lip-syncing). "Times Up" condemns him and says he shouldn't be granted a comeback, ever. Stay tuned!

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## Celebrity Extra

**By Dana Jackson**  
**Q:** Can you please tell me if there will be more episodes of "Sanctuary" starring Matthew Modine? I loved the first season of the series and the cliff-hanger ending. -- **A.S.**



M. Modine

**A:** I've always believed that if a season ends in a jaw-dropping cliffhanger, that must mean that the producers of the show are pretty confident it will live to tell another tale. I really hope this theory holds true for "Sanctuary," but so far nothing official has been announced by Sundance NOW. Check out its website (sundancenow.com) for updates, though, and fingers crossed you'll get your wish.

For those who haven't seen it, "Sanctuary," which premiered last April, is a psychological thriller that asks: "What could be worse than being imprisoned in a locked-down clinic where nothing is as it seems and nobody believes you are who you say you are? Who would you become in order to survive?"

It stars Swedish actress Josefina Asplund ("Vikings," "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo") as Helena "Hel" and Matthew Modine as "Dr. Fisher." (Don't confuse Sundance NOW's "Sanctuary" with the SyFy channel series of the same name that ran from 2008-11).

You also can check out Modine in "Operation Varsity Blues: The College Admissions Scandal" on Netflix, where he plays Rick Singer, the guy who helped wealthy parents buy their kids' way into prestigious colleges. It's a documentary-style film with reenactments by actors such as Modine.

\*\*\*

**Q:** Is "Outlander" coming back soon for another season? I just started reading the books, too. I love the show so much. -- **T.P.**

**A:** Fortunately, I was able to find an official answer regarding this production, as the Starz network recently announced that "Outlander" is currently filming its sixth season and that a seventh season will definitely follow.

If you want to read ahead with the books on which the series is based, the sixth

season will follow the plot of Diana Gabladon's novel "A Breath of Snow and Ashes," while the yet-to-be-filmed seventh installment will be based on her book "Echo in the Bone." Expect new episodes of "Outlander" to begin airing on Starz in late 2021, if not sooner.

\*\*\*

**Q:** Whatever happened to Catherine Bell, who starred on "JAG" years ago? -- **V.A.**

**A:** It's hard to believe it's been almost 25 years since the hit military legal drama "JAG" premiered on NBC. It starred David James Elliott and Catherine Bell, and lasted for 10 seasons. The actors and their "JAG" characters reunited not long ago on "NCIS: Los Angeles." We found out that the Mac and Harm unfortunately weren't together living their happily ever after, but this little glimpse into their lives has fans speculating if "JAG" might be getting a reboot.

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

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## Couch Theater

**By Amy Anderson**

It's officially spring! But depending on where you are in our lovely nation, you could be experiencing decidedly un-springlike weather -- False Spring, Second Winter or even The Pollening, which is where I am now, covered in a fine yellow dust. The plants and flowers are waking up from their slumber and getting ready to put on a show. If you're not there yet, here are a few movies featuring delightful greenery to help put you in the mood.

"Greenfingers" -- Very loosely based on a true story, this little British gem centers around the unlikely tale of Colin Briggs (Clive Owen), a close-mouthed lad serving out his sentence in a minimum-security prison. He accidentally discovers he's quite successful at raising flowers, and is assigned to be supervisor of the prison garden, along with his cellmate Fergus (David Kelly). Their collective success gets them noticed by local celebrity (Helen Mirren) and a bid at the

Hampton Court Flower Show. "A Little Chaos" -- As King Louis XIV's chosen architect for the gardens of Versailles, Andre La Notre (Matthew Schoenaerts) wants something spectacular. He finds it in the designs of Sabine De Barre, a female gardener and designer, played by Kate Winslet. The pair overcome court intrigue and their own personal demons to create life and emotion and magic from earth and plants and water.

"Edward Scissorhands" -- Johnny Depp plays the titular Edward, a humanoid creation of the Inventor (Vincent Price). Tragically, the Inventor dies before he can fix Edward's hands, which are made from many pairs of scissors. But Edward is wholly innocent and sweet, so when he is discovered in a Gothic mansion and brought into suburban America, he uses his scissor hands to, among other things, trim the neighborhood hedges into elaborate topiaries.

"The Karate Kid" -- It's a rough move from New Jersey to Reseda, California,

and Daniel LaRusso (Ralph Macchio) sets out to make friends the best way he can. Unfortunately, the local dojo is populated with no-good bullies, who make a beeline for Daniel. Enter Mr. Miyagi (Pat Morita), who not only takes Daniel under his wing and teaches him self-defense (and self-respect), but has an unforgettable, Okinawa-flavored oasis parked in the middle of what looks like a junkyard, where Daniel gets to train and work.

"The Secret Garden" -- "If you look the right way, you can see that the whole world is a garden," or so says Mary, the main character of this delightful story. Ten-year-old Mary comes to her uncle's house in Yorkshire as a spoiled orphan who stifles her vulnerability in favor of being a self-centered brat. But at this manor, she uncovers her late aunt's locked garden and sets about restoring it. In turn, her own soul and the souls of her relatives are restored.

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## • Trivia Test •

1. U.S. PRESIDENTS: The poem "O Captain! My Captain!" was written after the death of which president?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the weight of a U.S. quarter?
3. MOVIES: What was the name of the skyscraper in the drama "Die Hard"?
4. TELEVISION: What city was the setting for the sitcom "Mork and Mindy"?
5. SCIENCE: What is the study of knowledge, reality and existence called?
6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are male blue crabs called?
7. GEOGRAPHY: What is the highest point in Japan?
8. FOOD & DRINK: The acai berry is native to which continent?

9. LITERATURE: Who wrote the "Winnie-the-Pooh" book series for children?
10. MEASUREMENTS: What is an angstrom?

Answers

1. Abraham Lincoln
2. 0.2 ounces
3. Nakatomi Plaza
4. Boulder, Colorado
5. Philosophy
6. Jimmies
7. Mount Fuji
8. South America
9. A.A. Milne
10. One ten-billionth of a meter, used to measure very small distances

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## King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Actress Farrow
- 4 Carries
- 9 "Blue Bloods" network
- 12 Fireplace residue
- 13 WWII sub
- 14 "2001" computer
- 15 William and Kate's daughter
- 17 Lawyers' org.
- 18 Cato's 502
- 19 Noah's land-fall
- 21 Summaries
- 24 Garr of "Tootsie"
- 25 Berliner's cry
- 26 Hog haven
- 28 Quartet doubled
- 31 Ella's style
- 33 Congeal
- 35 iPhone voice
- 36 King of Judea
- 38 Dazzle
- 40 Right angle
- 41 "I've Got -- in Kalamazoo"
- 43 Sneaky sort
- 45 Secret matters
- 47 Request
- 48 Perched
- 49 Fraud
- 54 Candle count
- 55 Violin piece
- 56 Bird (Pref.)
- 57 Standard
- 58 Wimp
- 59 Poke

DOWN

- 1 Buddy
- 2 Somewhat (Suff.)
- 3 "Caught ya!"
- 4 Dutch exports
- 5 Woodwind players
- 6 Youngster
- 7 Really annoy
- 8 Sound system
- 9 Donor's beneficiaries
- 10 Rum cake
- 11 Venetian-blind part
- 16 Vitamin stat
- 20 Story lines
- 21 Impetuous
- 22 Caesar's "Behold!"
- 23 Role
- 27 Evergreen tree
- 29 Perry's creator
- 30 Cash drawer
- 32 Forum wear
- 34 In the direc-

- 37 Does the mambo
- 39 "Blade" actor
- 42 Christine of "Chicago Hope"
- 44 Alias abbr.
- 45 Now, in a memo
- 46 Sitar music
- 50 Ger. neighbor
- 51 Mahal predecessor
- 52 Gardner of film
- 53 Pen tip

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## Strange But True

**By Lucie Winborne**

\* One dung beetle can drag 1,141 times its own weight.

\* Italian banker Gilberto Baschiera was a modern-day Robin Hood. Over a period of seven years, he secretly diverted 1 million euros from wealthy clients to poorer ones so they could qualify for loans. He made no profit from these dealings and avoided jail in 2018 with a plea bargain.

\* In 2006, a Coca-Cola employee offered to sell Coca-Cola secrets to Pepsi. Pepsi took the high road and responded by notifying Coca-Cola.

\* Ever wonder why there's no period in "Dr Pepper"? It was removed because the old logo font made it look like "Di: Pepper."

\* Wildlife technician Richard Thomas took the famous tongue twister, "How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?" and calculated a rough estimate of the actual answer. It came out to around 700 pounds!

\* For years your dentist has no doubt advised you to be sure to floss. But the benefits extend beyond your teeth. Researchers have discovered that flossing can also help your memory. It prevents gum disease, which prevents stiff blood vessels, which in turn cause memory issues.

\* The future Queen Elizabeth II's wedding dress was entirely paid for with ration coupons.

\* Red Solo cups have not only been honored in a song by country singer Toby Keith, they're a common souvenir to bring back from the U.S. The novelty comes from their appearance in numerous movie party scenes.

\* American children are given an average of \$3.70 per lost tooth.

\* To properly write adjectives in order, list them by amount, value, size, temperature, age, shape, color, origin and material.

Thought for the Day: "No matter what path you're on in this life, if that path isn't about love, you're on the wrong path." -- Lawrence Overmire

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Happy 21st Birthday Michelle!



We love you! Mom, Dad, Billie & Susie

1 Column x 4"

\$26 in Reporter Or Money Saver \$34 To Run In Both

2 Column x 2"

\$26 in Reporter Or Money Saver \$34 To Run In Both

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 Put A Little Fun In Someone's Life!

Bring In A Photo With A Poem, Verse Or Message--or just a verse or message

(No extra charge for photo)

You can run any size ad \$6<sup>50</sup> per column inch for Reporter **OR** Money Saver \$8<sup>50</sup> per column inch in **BOTH** (See examples)

Call 815-539-9396 for more information

**CONGRATULATIONS!** on passing your State Exams  
**Carol Ann Smith, RN**  
 Love, Joey



## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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

ANSWERS

Weekly SUDOKU



Member FDIC

Brought to you each week by

FIRST STATE BANK

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

Solution time: 22 mins.

ANSWERS

King Crossword

# LOCAL AND AREA

## Virtual "Explore IVCC" event set for March 30

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College offers a live, virtual Explore IVCC event via Zoom from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 30.

This free event allows prospective students, parents and community members to get an idea of what IVCC has to offer.

A panel of current and past students will discuss their experiences with the college and three breakout sessions will cover transfer

information, high school dual credit, and career and technical education.

Assistant Director of Admissions, Records and Transfer Services Aseret Loveland said, "We look forward to meeting students and parents online to give them a sense of what IVCC has to offer."

RSVP at [www.ivcc.edu/admissions/exploreivcc.php](http://www.ivcc.edu/admissions/exploreivcc.php) or call (815) 224-0439. Summer registration begins April 2; Fall April 8.

### Social Security News

## Apply for retirement benefits online with Social Security

By Mike Weill

PERU – It's never too early to start planning for retirement, and our online tools can make your planning easier. Visit [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount) to access your my Social Security account, get a personalized estimate of your retirement benefits based on your earnings record, and find out how your benefit amount increases depending on the age you start them. Don't have a my Social Security account? You can create one at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

You can also review your entire earnings history in your my Social Security account. It is important that your earnings history is correct because we base your benefit amount on the earnings reported to us. If you find an error, the publication, How to Correct Your Social Security Earnings Record, at [www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf), tells you how to get your information corrected.

When you're ready to apply for Social Security

retirement benefits, you can complete our online application in as little as 15 minutes at [www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement). We will contact you if we need any further information. You can check the status of your application with your personal my Social Security account too.

You can apply online for Social Security retirement benefits, or benefits as a spouse, if you meet all of the following criteria:

- Are at least 61 years and nine months old.
- Are not currently receiving benefits on your own Social Security record.
- Have not already applied for retirement benefits.
- Want your benefits to start no later than four months in the future. (We cannot process your application if you apply for benefits more than four months in advance.)

Find out more about our online services at [www.ssa.gov/onlineservices](http://www.ssa.gov/onlineservices).

(Weill is the Social Security District Manager in Peru.)



## Tractors in Sublette

A one-day tractor show was held in downtown Sublette on March 21. This one-day show took place instead of the full farm toy and antique tractor show this year. Visitors were asked to respect social distancing and wear a mask. The tractors were displayed to make it easy just to drive through and view them. Plans are already underway for the 2022 show, which will be held on March 19-20. The feature tractor will be International Harvester, and Chapter 2 of the IH Collectors will be participating in the show. (Reporter photo by Tonja Greenfield)

**EASTER BLESSINGS**  
**MENDOTA 1ST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 100 East 6th Street • 815-538-5587  
[www.mendotafirstumc.org](http://www.mendotafirstumc.org) • [www.facebook.com/mendotafirstumc](https://www.facebook.com/mendotafirstumc)

All Holy Week activities will be offered online

**March 28**  
 Palm Sunday Worship  
 9 am – Worship. Pre-registration and masks required. Call 815-538-5587 to register. Online worship available on Facebook and YouTube.

**April 4**  
 Easter Sunday Worship  
 7 am and 10:30 am worship. Pre-registration and masks required. Call 815-538-5587 to register. Online worship available on Facebook and YouTube.

*"Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here. He has Risen!"*

open hearts  
open minds  
open doors

03242021

## DINING & entertainment guide

Illinois Valley House of Prayer\* presents:  
**Dean Braxton**  
 A man who was dead for 1 hour & 45 minutes  
**Friday, April 9**  
 Two Presentations:  
 4:30 p.m. seating begins at 4:00 p.m.  
 7:00 p.m. seating begins at 6:30 p.m.  
 at the Mendota Civic Center  
 1901 Tom Merwin Dr., Mendota, IL  
 \* We will be following Illinois Covid guidelines and social distancing. RSVP for seat reservation. Seating is limited. RSVP via Eventbrite-Link on: <https://www.facebook.com/crossroadshouseofprayer>  
 \* formerly Crossroads Coffee House

**Easter Sunday Brunch!**  
**Sunday, April 4**  
 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
 \$12.95 per person  
 • Reservations required •  
 Closing at 3 p.m.  
**EL ZARAPE**  
 Mexican & American Restaurant  
 1206 13th Ave., Mendota | (815) 539-5985  
 See our website: [www.elzarapemendota.com](http://www.elzarapemendota.com)

**Main St. Station Bar & Grill**  
 714 Main St. Mendota 815-539-7011  
 Carry-out & curbside pick-up always available.

**Specials**  
**Friday, March 26**  
 Featuring Baked Cod Almondine as our Lenten special!  
 Other Lenten menu items include Shrimp, Orange Roughy, Tilapia, Cod, Deep Fried Cod, Salmon.

**Saturday, March 27**  
 Cookout Night!  
 Ribeye • Pork Chops • Filet  
 Served with potato, vegetable, salad bar & dessert.  
 (full menu available both nights)

**Sunday Fun Day is back on March 28!**  
 Serving lunch starting at 11:30.  
 Live music featuring "Greenfield Station" from 2-5.

Visit our Website or Facebook for daily lunch & dinner specials.  
[www.mainstreetstationbar-grill.com](http://www.mainstreetstationbar-grill.com)

Join Us In Celebration!  
**United Pentecostal Church**  
 4401 St., Route 251 • Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor  
 email: [mendotaupc@yahoo.com](mailto:mendotaupc@yahoo.com) • [www.mendotaupc.org](http://www.mendotaupc.org)

**April 4 EASTER SUNDAY**  
 10:00 a.m. Easter Celebration Service

Easter Egg Hunt for the kids after the service!

**Celebrating the Easter Miracle**  
**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

Holy Cross Church - Mendota  
 Sts. Peter & Paul Church - Peterstown

**April 1 - Holy Thursday**  
 Holy Cross Church - Mendota  
 No Thursday Morning Mass - Adoration Chapel Closed  
 Noon-1p.m. Confessions  
 7:00p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 8-10p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**April 2 - Good Friday**  
 Holy Cross Church - Mendota  
 No Friday Morning Mass - Adoration Chapel Closed  
 10:00-11:00a.m. Confessions  
 Noon Good Friday Service  
 5:00p.m. Live Stations of the Cross  
 5:00-6:00p.m. Confessions

**April 3 - Holy Saturday**  
 Holy Cross Church - Mendota  
 10:00-11:00a.m. Confessions  
 8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass

**April 4 - Easter Sunday Mass Schedule**  
 Holy Cross Church - Mendota  
 English Masses will be held at: 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.  
 Spanish Mass will be held at Noon  
 No scheduled adoration at 2:00 p.m. this Sunday

Holy Cross Church • 1010 Jefferson St. • Mendota  
 Fr. Peter Pilon, Pastor

**In Celebration Of Easter**  
**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
 398 Church Road  
 Compton, Illinois  
 815-539-6567  
 Pastor  
 Jeff Schlesinger

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
 Full Easter Sunday worship video accessible via:  
 You Tube – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxhbzUMEE1C2SlSP-YI65A>  
 Facebook – [facebook.com/ilccompton](https://www.facebook.com/ilccompton)  
 Website – [www.ilccompton.org](http://www.ilccompton.org)

**Brief In-Person Communion Services:**  
 Immanuel Lutheran, Compton  
 7:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.  
 First Lutheran, Lee  
 10:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

[www.immanuellutherancompton.org](http://www.immanuellutherancompton.org)

# THE BACK PAGE

## GARAGE SALES & NOTICES

**MASS PORK CHOP BBQ**  
Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services  
Wednesday, March 31  
Serving 4:30-7 p.m. at Mendota Civic Center.  
Drive-thru only.  
2 BBQ pork chops, potato salad, baked beans, roll & butter, cookie.  
\$15 per person.  
Advance tickets are available at MASS & Mendota area banks.  
2t11rms

**ANNUAL MULTI FOUR-FAMILY GARAGE SALE**  
906 Carolyn St., Mendota North of Northbrook School.  
Thursday, April 1 4-7 p.m.  
Friday, April 2 8 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Saturday, April 3 8-10 a.m.  
(1/2 price day)  
Beautiful name-brand clothing in perfect condition for girls & boys sizes newborn-adult, baby gear, crib, stroller, car seat, bouncer, quality toys, in-style home décor, current housewares, child & adult shoes, books, deluxe costumes, bedding & much more.  
All items are like new & very clean.  
Please wear a mask.  
2t12msr

**ADVERTISE YOUR GARAGE SALE HERE**

## IN MEMORIAM

**In Loving Memory of JERALD HILD SR., who passed away two years ago, March 31, 2019.**  
Not a day passes by, Dad, that you don't cross our minds.  
Not all of you departed when you left our earth behind.  
In our hearts there is a place that only you can hold.  
Filled with loving memories more priceless than gold.  
We know you still hear us, Dad, so please know this is true that everything we are today is all because of you.  
Sadly missed by,  
Your Family

## BLESSED EVENTS

**BRANDNER** – Michael Brandner and Autumn Karpinski, girl, March 5, 2021, at St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley.

**GARAGE SALE/NOTICE DEADLINES**  
• Thursday 5 p.m. to appear in Monday's Money Saver.  
• Monday 10 a.m. to appear in Wednesday's Reporter.

**AL'S LAWN SERVICE**  
815-910-6321  
COMMERCIAL  
RESIDENTIAL  
YARD MAINTENANCE  
MOWING • TRIMMING  
FULLY INSURED  
04112016

## POLICE BLOTTER

**DUI**  
Kristin M. Tuerk, 37, of Arlington Heights, was charged with driving under the influence after police officers were dispatched to the intersection of 12th Street and Guiles Avenue at 4:42 p.m. March 20. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

**WARRANT ARREST**  
Kevin T. Romez, 43, of Rockford, was arrested at the intersection of 13th Avenue and Washington Street at 10:58 p.m. March 20 on a valid Pike County warrant for failure to appear on a charge of driving while license suspended. The subject was unable to post bond and was transported to the LaSalle County Jail.

## Incinerator Hours

**MENDOTA**—Incinerator (burn pit) hours for the city of Mendota are as follows:  
• Monday – 3 to 6 p.m.  
• Tuesday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
• Thursday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
• Friday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
• Saturday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
The incinerator is located south of Mendota near the sewage treatment plant.

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• Northern Maple Hardwood Frame on all Stress Points  
• Double Doweled at Stress Points  
• Reinforced Mitre Blocks  
• Stapled and Glued

**STABILITY & SUPPORT**  
Adjustable Anti-Skid Feet

**SOFT TO THE TOUCH**  
with numerous durable fabric options

**EXTREME COMFORT TECHNOLOGY**  
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• Hand Blown Dacron Fill  
• Pocketed Coil Seating Systems

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Manufactured in Old Forge, PA

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1901 South State Highway 251  
Mendota • 815-539-6263  
meyersfurniture.com  
Mon & Fri 9-6 • Tue & Wed 9-5  
Thurs Closed • Sat 10-5  
Sun Noon-4  
09162019

## Be alert for bicyclists on road

**MENDOTA** – The Mendota Police Department urges motorists to pay attention, be alert for bikes and share the road. MPD urges bicyclists to be predictable and observe traffic laws. Your actions affect public opinion.

**Illinois Bicycle Laws**  
Traffic laws apply to persons riding bicycles. Bicyclists riding on a highway are granted all of the rights and are subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle, with few exceptions.

**Lane Positioning** – When riding on roadways and bicycle paths at less than normal traffic speed, ride as close as practicable and safe to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except, when overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction, or, when preparing for a left turn, or, when reasonably necessary to avoid fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, motorized

pedal cycles, pedestrians, animals and surface hazards.  
**Lights on Bicycles** – For night riding, a front lamp with a white light visible from at least 500 feet to the front and a red reflector on the rear visible from 100 feet to 600 feet are required. A rear light visible from 500 feet may be used in addition to the red reflector.  
**Two or More on a Bike** – Bicycles shall not be used to carry more persons one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped, except that an adult rider may carry a child securely attached to his person in a backpack device or sling.  
**Parental Responsibility** – The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize the child or ward to violate any of the provision of this code.  
The Mendota Police Department encourages bicyclists to wear a helmet for protection against head injuries.



**Mendota Native running to be your next Mendota Township Road Commissioner Marvin Fultz**  
Vote April 6, 2021  
Paid for by Marvin Fultz

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS Seamless Roofing INC.**  
705 Illinois Ave. Mendota, IL 61342  
815-539-5142  
northernillinoiseseamlessroofing.com  
DURO-LAST THE WORLD'S BEST ROOF. Authorized Contractor. NRCA • BBB

**Leak-Proof... Guaranteed!**

# GARAGE SALE TIME!



**It's a great time to have a Garage Sale. If you're planning to get together some of the items you no longer use around your home and set up your own sale, be sure you follow some important basic steps!**

- 1. WHAT TO SELL**  
Anything that still has usability and some value.
- 2. HOW TO PRICE**  
Decide the price of each item and then tag that item.
- 3. LENGTH OF SALE**  
Sales from Thursday through Saturday seem best.
- 4. HOW TO SET IT UP**  
Make it easy for buyers to view the items and have a central place with sufficient change for them to pay.
- 5. HOW TO ADVERTISE**  
The most effective place to reach more people is in The Mendota Reporter. We will be happy to assist you in placing your sale ad.

**GARAGE SALE DEADLINES\***  
**THURSDAY, 5 PM -**  
**to appear in Monday's Money Saver**  
**MONDAY, 10 AM -**  
**To appear in Wednesday's Reporter**  
\* On a week with a holiday, deadlines may change. Please call to verify.



**Call 815-539-9396 or stop in the office at 703 Illinois Ave.**

# SPORTS

## MHS starts soccer season with a bang

□ Trojans win two by 21-0 margin

MENDOTA – What looked to be a promising season has certainly started out that way for the Mendota varsity boys' soccer team as it has won its first two games by a 21-0 margin.

The Trojan kicked off the spring 2021 campaign with an 11-0 triumph over Winnebago in Big Northern Conference action on March 18 at the MHS field.

Johnathan Cortez led the attack with three goals and an assist. Other goal-scorers included Jose Ruiz, Edgar Arteaga, Jasiel Watson, Yahir Diaz, Izaiah Nanez, Luis Garcia and Ricky Orozco.

Also picking up assists were Diaz (three), Orozco and Josue Arteaga.

Many Trejo was between the pipes for the Trojans and had three saves.

\*\*\*  
Mendota overpowered

LaSalle-Peru, 10-0, on the home turf on March 20.

Watson sparked the victory with four goals. Three of them came in the first nine minutes of the game. Diaz provided two goals and four assists, while the defense got involved in the attack as Josue Arteaga punched in a pair of goals and Rafa Romero recorded one. Ricky Orozco and Nanez tallied the other goals for the Trojans.

Assists went to Ruiz (two), Romero, Edgar Arteaga and Josue Arteaga.

Trejo pitched another shutout in goal with one save.

Mendota claimed a 6-0 victory in the junior varsity game.

Eli Arjes rammed home a pair of goals, while Iker Landeros, Jesus Orozco, Isaac Guzman and Nanez added one goal apiece.

## Despite youth, Trojans boast experience

□ Junior-dominated roster logged plenty of playing time during 2019 campaign

MENDOTA – Spring football is usually reserved for colleges and the pros to assess their talent for the fall season when games matter. This year, spring football will be a part of high schools in the state of Illinois.

After the pandemic canceled the 2020 fall season, everyone waited for months to see if a football season of any type could be played in the 2020-21 school year. Much to the delight of players and coaches, the IHSA gave the green light for a season back in January and high schools have been preparing for their first games, which were allowed to begin on March 19.

For the Mendota Trojans, they will kick off the campaign on Saturday, March 27 when they travel to Poplar Grove to take on North Boone at 2 p.m. Mendota will play a five-game schedule, with home games slated for Friday, April 2 against Oregon and Friday, April 23 against Genoa-Kingston. Both contests start at 7 p.m.

"It is different not being the sport that kicks off the athletic calendar," said Mendota coach Keegan Hill, who begins his third year at the helm of the Trojans. "Getting to the season without any additional rescheduling is refreshing for everyone involved. We have a very similar timeline to a traditional Fall season in terms of number of practices together."

The Trojans will be a junior-dominated team, but some of those juniors gained varsity experience as sophomores during the 2019 campaign.

"Having multiple players gain varsity experience last year is important and we can build on it," stated Hill. "The uncertainty of playing at the varsity level is a real thing and our players can have confidence in knowing that they have been there before and expect to improve their performance."

Junior Ted Landgraf is one of those players that participated on the varsity squad as a sophomore in 2019, starting all nine games at quarterback. He completed 38 passes for 522 yards and also ran for 242 yards and six touchdowns.

"As with any player or coach in our program, we

expect our play to improve," Hill noted. "Ted is a smart player that understands that and knows how we feel about his skills and abilities. He expects to continue to grow into the position and the role of QB in our offense."

An area of inexperience will be at the other skill positions on offense. Senior Andres Castaneda returns for a third varsity season at wide receiver (12 receptions, 205 yards, 3 TDs in 2019), but after him, the experience level drops off. Hill named juniors Emilio Perez, Uzi Angulo, Damien Magallanes and John Gonzalez as candidates for the running back position. Out of the bunch, only Angulo has much playing time at the position on the varsity level. In 2019, he carried the ball 26 times for 80 yards.

"We expect to improve our efficiency on the offensive side of the ball," said Hill. "Executing on early downs and early in games is vital to our success as a team."

Down in the trenches, three of the five starting offensive linemen return as juniors – Andy Rivera, Omar Gonzalez and Christian Tellez. Others vying for playing time on the line are senior Derek Nanez and juniors Sean Figueroa, Sergio Sandoval and Parker Guelde.

Hill said that multiple players will have a two-way role, including Angulo, Omar Gonzalez and others. "Their skill set and technique will be important to us improving our style of play on defense," added Hill.

Magallanes recorded 64 tackles from the free safety position last season, while Tellez had 42 stops at linebacker and Omar Gonzalez posted 22 tackles, including four tackles for loss, on the defensive line.

Hill said he wants everyone to have a healthy experience during this unique season, where everyone grows as players, people and competitors.

"The opportunity to play this game is special and these players get to enjoy this season together, which is important," he explained. "Our program goals for the season are to improve every game. No Ds or Fs in the program. We want to improve our speed, strength and be competitive."

**Mendota Varsity Football**  
 March 26 – at North Boone – 6:00  
 April 2 – Oregon – 6:00  
 April 9 – Rock Falls – 6:00  
 April 17 – Dixon – 2:00  
 April 23 – Genoa-Kingston – 6:00



**Mendota Junior Varsity Football**  
 March 29 – at North Boone – 5:00  
 April 5 – Oregon – 5:00  
 April 12 – at Rock Falls – 5:00  
 April 19 – Dixon – 5:00  
 April 26 – Genoa-Kingston – 5:00



\*\*\*\*\*

**Mendota Varsity Football Roster**

No	Player	Pos	Yr
1	Damien Magallanes	WR/DB	Jr
2	Isaac Smith	RB/DB	So
3	Emilio Perez	WR/DB	Jr
4	Andres Castaneda	WR/DB	So
5	Anthony Childs	RB/LB	So
6	Braydon Boelk	WR/DB	So
7	Ted Landgraf	QB/DB	Jr
9	Gavin Huffaker	WR/DB	Jr
10	Uzi Angulo	RB/DL	Jr
11	Garret Zinke	WR/DB	So
12	Jack Mikolasek	WR/DB	So
13	Ryne Strouss	WR/DB	So
14	Aaron Avila	WR/DL	Jr
15	Abel Rodriguez	WR/LB	Jr
20	Logan Muller	RB/LB	So
21	J.P. Belmonte	RB/LB	So
23	John Gonzalez	WR/LB	Jr
50	Charles Heiting	OL/DL	So
51	Derek Nanez	OL/DL	Sr
52	Christian Tellez	OL/LB	Jr
54	Neal Linden	OL/LB	So
55	Omar Gonzalez	OL/DL	Jr
56	Parker Guelde	OL/DL	Jr
60	Sean Figueroa	OL/DL	Jr
63	Sergio Sandoval	OL/DL	Jr
70	Landon Kreiser	OL/DL	So
75	Andy Rivera	OL/DL	Jr
76	Jordan Coney	OL/DL	So
79	Jose Rocha	OL/DL	So

**Head coach:** Keegan Hill  
**Assistant coaches:** Joel Perez, Brock Zinke, Dan Beck, Cody Zinke, Tim Staffeldt, Steve Villegas

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mendota F-S Football Roster**

No	Player	Pos	Yr
4	Anthony Childs	QB/LB	So
6	Braydon Boelk	WR/DB	So
9	Garret Zinke	WR/DB	So
21	J.P. Belmonte	RB/LB	So
22	Jack Mikolasek	WR/DB	So
32	Isaac Smith	RB/DB	So
33	Logan Muller	RB/LB	So
35	Tristan Redcliff	TE/LB	Fr
40	Justin Randolph	QB/DB	Fr
45	Charles Heiting	RB/DL	So
51	Zach Mullins	OL/DL	Fr
52	Neal Linden	OL/LB	So
55	Diego Sandoval	OL/DL	Fr
57	Julian Muller	OL/DL	Fr
63	Jake Saylor	OL/DL	Fr
66	Landon Kreiser	OL/DL	So
75	Juan Gama	OL/DL	So
76	Jose Rocha	OL/DL	So
78	Jordan Coney	OL/DL	So
83	Ryne Strouss	WR/DB	So
86/1	Nataliya Stewart	WR/DB	Fr

**Head coach:** Dan Beck  
**Assistant coaches:** Cody Zinke, Tim Staffeldt, Steve Villegas



## Illinois 2021 Spring Trout Fishing Season opens April 3

SPRINGFIELD – The 2021 Illinois Spring Trout Fishing Season will open Saturday, April 3 at 57 ponds, lakes and streams throughout the state.

An early opportunity at select trout sites – the Spring Catch-and-Release Fishing Season – will open March 20. No trout may be kept during the catch and release fishing period, but anglers can keep trout after the opening of the regular season beginning April 3.

The Illinois Catchable Trout Program is funded by those who use the program through the sale of Inland Trout Stamps. The Illinois Department of

Natural Resources (IDNR) stocks more than 80,000 rainbow trout each year in bodies of water where trout fishing is permitted during the spring season. An additional 80,000 trout will be stocked for the Fall Trout Fishing Season, which begins in October.

For the 2021 spring trout season, no trout may be taken from any of the stocked sites from March 15 until the season opens at 5 a.m. April 3. Anyone attempting to harvest trout before the legal harvest season opening will be issued citations.

See Trout, Page B2



Mendota's Ella Massey, left, gets a block off of a kill attempt by Christina Anyebuno of Rockford Christian while Jaelyn Fitzgerald assists on March 18 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

## Spikers take down 2 foes to begin season

MENDOTA – The Mendota Spikers are off to a fast start with a pair of victories to open the 2021 spring campaign.

Mendota began the season with a 25-22, 25-20 decision over Rockford Christian in a Big Northern Conference match on March 18 at the MHS gym.

Ella Massey sparked the offense with three kills and 14 assists. Paige Manning and Jaelyn Fitzgerald each had three kills, while Madi Mikolasek delivered three ace serves and

Jenna O'Donnell picked up 13 digs. Massey, Manning and Elly Buettner added eight digs apiece.

\*\*\*

The Spikers took down Putnam County, 25-10, 25-19, in non-conference action on March 20 at the MHS gym.

Fitzgerald was a force at the net for Mendota with eight kills and two solo blocks. Bailey Baird and Reanna Brant posted five kills apiece, while O'Donnell recorded 12 digs and Massey totaled 22 assists.

## Little 10 picks top girls' hoop players

EARLVILLE – The Little Ten Conference girls' basketball coaches have selected the 2021 Little Ten All-Conference Girls' Basketball Team. Ten players were recognized with all-conference honors.

- **Serena**—Conference Champions: \*\*Katie Baker (Jr...G)—16.3 ppg, 3.8 rpg, 5.9 apg, 6.3 spg; Third time All-Conference, Twice Unanimous; \*\*Taylor Staton (Sr...F)—13.8 ppg, 7.0 rpg; Repeat Selection
- **Newark**—Conference Runner-Up (Tie), Conference Tournament Champions: \*\*Kellie Snyder (Jr...F)—6.3 ppg, 10.5 rpg, 3.9 spg; Repeat Selection; \*\*Kaitlyn Hatteberg (Sr...F)—11.8 ppg, 6.6 rpg, 2.8 apg, 2.5 spg
- **Indian Creek**—Conference Runner-Up (Tie), Conference Tournament 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \*\*Brooke Heiman (Sr...G)—25.9 ppg, 7.1

rpg; Fourth time All-Conference, Three times Unanimous

- **Somonauk-Leland Coop**—Conference Tournament Runner-Up: \*\*Maggie Roberts (Jr...F)—18.5 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 1.4 apg, 1.3 spg, 2.5 bpg; Repeat Unanimous Selection; \*\*Ashley Eaton (Sr...G)—8.0 ppg, 6.4 rpg, 3.5 apg, 1.2 spg, 3.4 bpg
- **Hinckley-Big Rock**—\*\*Tessa Prellberg (Sr...G)—22.7 ppg, 10.8 rpg, 3.3 apg, 5.2 spg in conference games; Three-time Unanimous Selection; Ashleigh Wackerlin (Jr...G)—13.6 ppg, 7.3 rpg, 1.3 apg, 4.3 spg in conference games
- **Earlville**—\*\*Elizabeth Browder (Jr...F)—11.0 ppg, 8.8 rpg, 2.3 apg, 1.7 spg; Repeat Unanimous Selection (\*\*Denotes a unanimous selection)

# SPORTS

## Trout

Continued from Page B1

All anglers – including those who intend to release fish caught before April 3 – must have a fishing license and an Inland Trout Stamp, unless they are under the age of 16, blind or disabled, or are an Illinois resident on leave from active duty in the Armed Forces. The daily catch limit for each angler is five trout.

For more information on trout seasons and other Illinois fishing opportunities, check the website at [www.ifishillinois.org](http://www.ifishillinois.org).

Illinois 2021 fishing licenses and Inland Trout Stamps are available now at IDNR license and permit locations, including many bait shops, sporting goods stores and other retail outlets. For a list of locations, check the IDNR website at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).

Fishing licenses and trout stamps also can be purchased online. Find the link on the IDNR website at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).

illinois.gov.

For information about all site regulations, anglers should contact individual sites that will be stocked with catchable-size trout. Not all sites open at 5 a.m. on opening day. Anglers are reminded to check the opening time of their favorite sites prior to the open date.

Among the locations that will be open for the spring trout season are:

- Hennepin Canal Parkway-Bureau County
- Big Lake, Silver Springs State Fish and Wildlife Area (SFWA)-Kendall County
- Illinois and Michigan Canal Lock 14, LaSalle-LaSalle County
- Lake Mendota, City of Mendota-LaSalle County
- \*\*Pine Creek, White Pines Forest State Park-Ogle County
- Centennial Park Pond, Rock Falls-Whiteside County

(\* Denotes site open for Catch-and-Release Early Spring Season fishing)

## Little 10 names boys' all-conference team

EARLVILLE – The Little Ten Conference boys' basketball coaches have selected the 2021 Little Ten All-Conference Boys' Basketball Team. Ten players were recognized with all-conference honors.

- **Indian Creek** – Conference Champs, Conference Tournament Champs: \*\*Drew Gaston (Sr...G)—17.5 ppg, 5.0 apg, 2.5 spg; Repeat Unanimous Selection; \*\*Michael Lampson (Sr...G)—13.6 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 53% 3-PT FG; Repeat Unanimous Selection; \*\*Cameron Russell (Sr...G)—17.3 ppg, 8.1 rpg, 4.0 apg, 3.5 spg; Repeat Unanimous Selection; Brennen McNally (Sr...F)—9.0 ppg, 7.1 rpg, 2.1 spg, 2.0 apg
- **Somonauk** – Conference Runner-Up (3-

way tie), Conference Tournament Runner-Up: \*\*Alexander Krejci (Jr...G)—12.9 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 2.4 apg, 71% FT; Brendan Roberts (Jr...G)—14.4 ppg, 6.2 rpg, 2.4 apg, 56.2% FG

- **Newark** – Conference Runner-Up (3-way tie), Conference Tournament 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \*\*Jared Slivka (Sr...G)—12.6 ppg, 2.4 rpg, 2.8 apg
  - **Hinckley-Big Rock**—Conference Runner-Up (3-way tie): \*\*Judson Scott (Jr...F)—11.7 ppg, 5.6 rpg, 1.3 apg, 1.0 spg
  - **Earlville**—Noah Lemke (Sr...C)—10.2 ppg, 7.5 rpg, 49% FG
  - **Serena**—Camden Figgins (So...G)—13.9 ppg, 3.8 rpg, 2.5 apg, 46.5% FG
- (\* Denotes a unanimous selection)

## BOWLING

### Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as March 9 – 1. CM Farm 42-23; 2. Bad Kats 38-27; 3. Sports-N-Stuff 35-30; 4. Mendota Agri-Products 21-44

High team game (scratch) – Mendota Agri-Products 960, Sports-N-Stuff 861, Bad Kats 740  
High team game (hdcp) – Sports-N-Stuff 1252, Bad Kats 1202, CM Farm 1197

High team series (scratch) – Mendota Agri-Products 2690, Sports-N-Stuff 2479, Bad Kats 2077

High team series (hdcp) – Sports-N-Stuff 3652, CM Farm 3528, Bad Kats 3463

Men's high game (scratch) – Bob Thomas 224, Ed Roulston 214, Ron Westphal 212

Men's high game (hdcp) – Ed Roulston 283, Ron Westphal 250, Bob Thomas 250

Men's high series (scratch) – Bob Thomas 632, Ron Westphal 609, Ed Roulston 570

Men's high series (hdcp) – Ed Roulston 777, Ron Westphal 723, Bob Thomas 710

Women's high game (scratch) – Jessica Robinson 245, Brenda Westphal 192, Sarah Westphal 192

Women's high game (hdcp) – Jessica Robinson 322, Sarah Westphal 279, Debbie Berger 268

Women's high series (scratch) – Jessica Robinson 594, Hannah Westphal 523, Brenda Westphal 511

Women's high series (hdcp) – Jessica Robinson 825, Hannah Westphal 769,

Sarah Westphal 737

### Elks Thursday Youth League

Standings as of March 4 – 1. Team 5 25-3; 2. Team 3 20-8; 3. Team 2 15-13; 4. Team 1 15-13; 5. Team 4 8-20

High team game (scratch) – Team 5 813, Team 4 623, Team 2 464

High team game (hdcp) – Team 2 1088, Team 3 1039, Team 4 1030

High team series (scratch) – Team 5 2342, Team 4 1793, Team 2 1349

High team series (hdcp) – Team 2 3221, Team 3 3051, Team 4 3014

Boys high game (scratch) – Landon Bauer 222, Kasen Novak 206, Alex Holland 178

Boys high game (hdcp) – Emiliano Villagomez 258, Oliver Turner 255, Alex Holland 235

Boys high series (scratch) – Landon Bauer 593, Kasen Novak 532, Alex Holland 482

Boys high series (hdcp) – Oliver Turner 710, Emiliano Villagomez 696, Alex Holland 653

Girls high game (scratch) – Lauren Holland 173, Lexie Saylor 106, Sofia Lemus 84

Girls high game (hdcp) – Sofia Lemus 237, Lauren Holland 231, Gracie Smith 219

Girls high series (scratch) – Lauren Holland 392, Lexie Saylor 290, Gracie Smith 204

Girls high series (hdcp) – Sofia Lemus 653, Gracie Smith 645, Lexie Saylor 599

## How to design a fitness room at home

People exercise for many different reasons. Exercise can improve one's appearance, reduce the risk for illness, alleviate stress or anxiety, and even help pass some time. Exercise is often a social activity, but in the wake of social distancing guidelines issued in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, many people have found themselves looking for ways to exercise at home.

Building a home fitness room has never been a more timely project, and such a project can continue to provide rewards even when life returns to some semblance of normalcy. Here's how to successfully stock a home gym.

- Find a dedicated space. A home gym will be limited by the amount of space that can be devoted to workouts. Possible fitness room locations include a spare bedroom, a garage, a basement, or an enclosed patio.

Measure the space so you can pick and choose equipment that will fit. Leave some floor space empty for movement exercises or mat activities.

- Keep the space bright. Darkness can sap energy levels, so invest in mirrors and adequate overhead lighting to make the space inviting. Natural light can make the exercise area more enjoyable.

- Consider the flooring. New flooring can protect against damage and make an area more conducive to working out. Rubber mats can offset echoes and reduce the noise of running on a treadmill or setting down heavy weights.

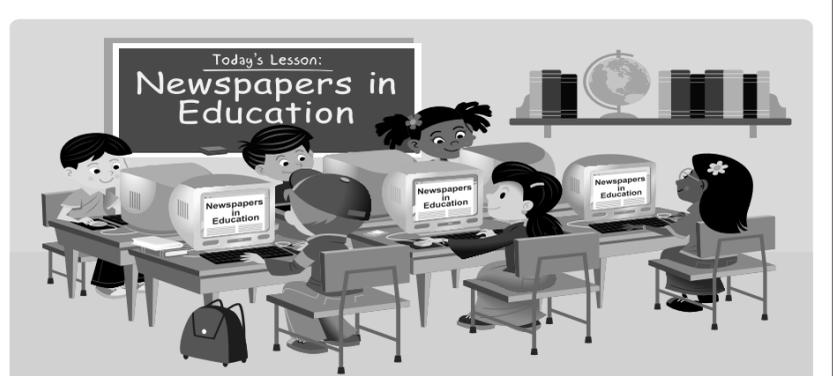
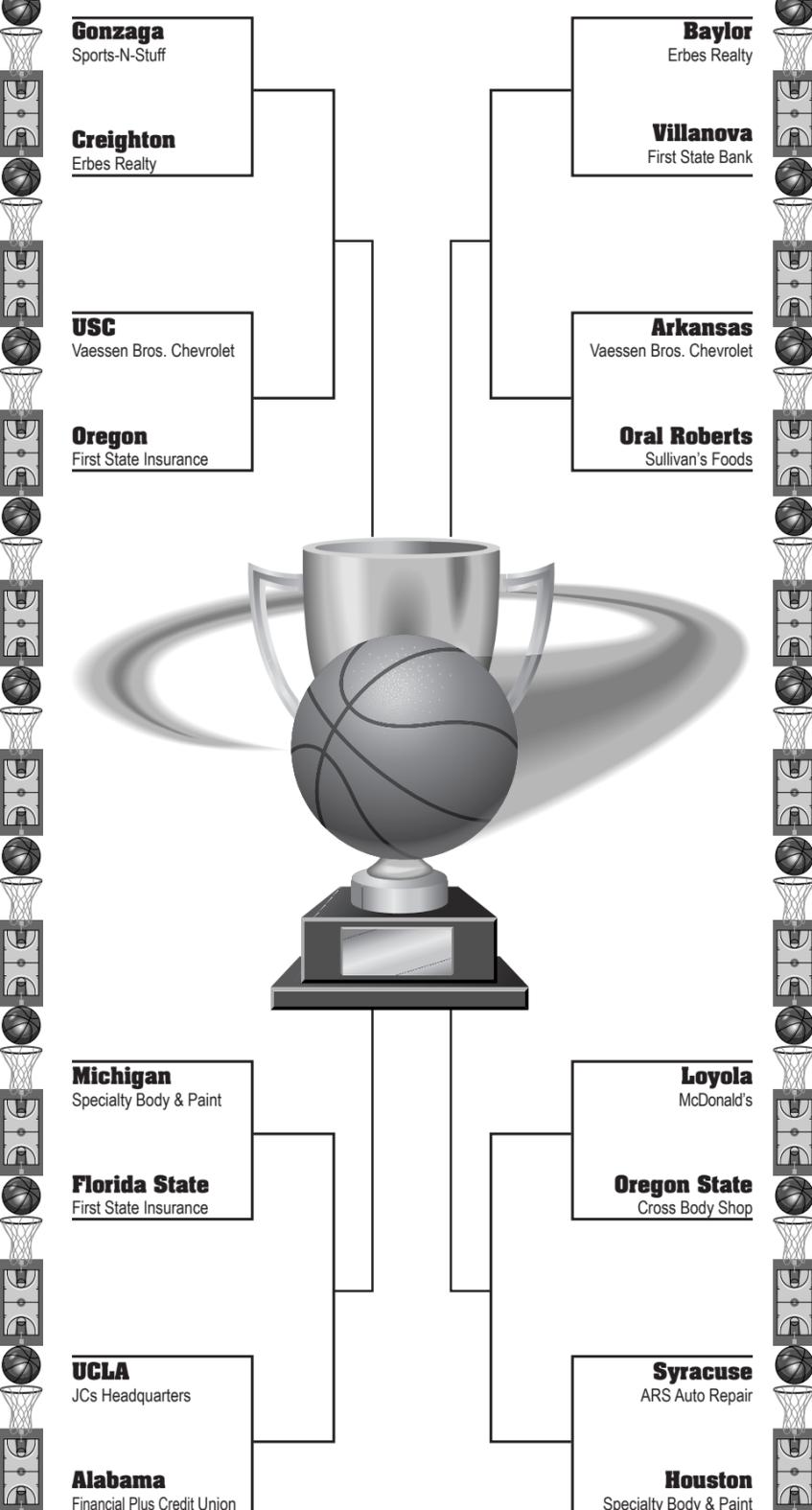
- Use space-saving equipment. A home gym space will likely not be as expansive as the space inside a traditional fitness center. Thankfully, many activities do not require a lot of

space or equipment. Classic exercises like squats, lunges, push-ups, and sit ups require little gear but still produce results. Figure out which equipment you like the most and invest in two or three key pieces. Dumbbells of various weights, a medicine ball and a yoga mat can be all you need to create a versatile, effective workout. A TRX system and a door-mounted pull-up bar also are great space-saving options.

- Have a TV hookup. A home gym may benefit from a smart TV that you can use to stream workout videos or catch up on the latest news while running the treadmill or using the stationary bike.

A home gym is beneficial year-round, and can be especially valuable when social distancing guidelines are put in place.

## Who's Left in the Reporter's NCAA Contest?



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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Escape the trap of offense

It seems these days that people are easily offended by opinions or ways of thinking that they disagree with or simply don't understand. The result is often strife and anger that causes strained or damaged relationships.

Some offenses are minor, like someone cutting you off in traffic or taking a parking spot you were waiting on. Others are harder to overcome, such as a rude, critical comment from a close friend.

We need to understand that offense is one of Satan's greatest tools to steal our peace and keep us from the good things God has planned for our lives.

### What does "offense" really mean?

The word "offense" comes from the Greek word scandalon; it literally describes a trap used to hold bait in order to lure animals.

Similarly, offense is the bait the enemy uses to trap us. He uses people's words and actions to get our minds churning and stir up

our emotions. This is the bait that leads to situations filled with bitterness, resentment, unforgiveness, hatred and revenge.

I often say that Satan sets us up to get us upset. He knows our weaknesses and what buttons to push to send us over the edge. The good news is, through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, we can know the truth of God's Word and refuse to take his bait.

In other words, when somebody tries to give you offense, you can decide whether to take it or not.

### The choice is yours to make

I understand that choosing to not be offended is not easy, but we can refuse to be offended because God gives us self-control, which is a fruit of the Spirit (see Galatians 5:22-23). This means we can control ourselves with God's help and take responsibility for how we respond to life's situations.

It's easy to blame

someone else for our attitude, thinking, If you didn't upset me, then I wouldn't feel this way or If you would just do this, then I would be happy.

But the truth is we will never be free from any problem as long as we're blaming somebody else. I'm not saying other people don't do anything wrong; however, we can't control what everyone else does, but we can choose how we are going to react!

### God's love is the key

First Corinthians 13:5 says love "is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs" (NIV). Love is a choice! I can choose to forgive and let it go, or I can hold on to the offense and let the hurt turn into something even worse.

For example, sometimes an offense starts out like a paper cut. It's seemingly small, but if you don't take care of it properly, it can begin to fester. In time, it can become infected and cause you a lot of pain.

I can tell you from



personal experience that it's so much better to take care of a problem when it's little, before it has an opportunity to take root and turn into something more serious. I've learned that the quicker I can forgive somebody, the easier it's going to be. Sometimes this means being the first one to apologize and make peace—even if it's not my fault.

However, the more we do the right thing, the easier it gets. The quicker I forgive others and get rid of any offense, the more peace I have in my life. After a while, you realize that staying offended doesn't change other people or solve your problems—it only makes you bitter and angry.

I often say that staying mad at someone who has hurt you is like taking poison and hoping your enemy will die. You don't hurt them at all—you only hurt

yourself!

### Choose peace, not offense

Psalm 34:14 tells us to "seek peace and pursue it" (NIV). I've learned over the years (many times the hard way) just how valuable God's supernatural peace really is. Now, I absolutely refuse to live without it! It is so much greater than living with the toxic results of holding unforgiveness in my heart.

Opportunities to be offended will never go away, but we can grow wise to the enemy's tactics and learn how to respond in a godly way.

So, the next time you are tempted to be offended, don't take the bait! Always remember that you have a choice. You can choose to be angry and bitter...or you can decide to forgive, believe the best of others, and enjoy God's supernatural peace.

\*\*\*

For more on this topic, order Joyce's

four-CD series Understanding Your Triggers & Avoiding the Trap of Offense. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored 120 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and her newest devotional QUIET TIMES WITH GOD (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](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

**ANTIQUE ARMS SHOW**  **National Treasures Expo**   
**Open to the Public**  
**Friday, Saturday & Sunday, March 26, 27 & 28**  
 Friday 4-9pm • Saturday 9am-5pm • Sunday 9am-3pm  
 136 Sinsinawa, East Dubuque, IL  
**\$8 Admission** (Masks required) **NOT YOUR USUAL GUN SHOW!**  
**BATTLEFIELD GUNS** Buy • Sell • Trade Pre-1898  
**CUSTER BATTLEFIELD GUNS**  
 from the Battle of Little Big Horn  
 Arms attributed to:  
 Tom Custer, Doc Holliday, James B. Hickok, Jesse James & Emmett Dalton  
**INDIAN WAR GUNS**  
 Call Mark for Private Viewing Appointments **563-590-4248** 

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**The Mendota Reporter**

703 Illinois Ave. Mendota IL 61342 • 815-539-9396  
 M-F 8-5 • [www.mendotareporter.com](http://www.mendotareporter.com)

04242019

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

### MENDOTA

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Rev. Peter A. Pilon, Pastor  
Ray Fischer, Jose Lopez,  
and Hector Diaz, Deacons  
.....

#### HOLY CROSS, MENDOTA

Weekday Mass  
Weekend Mass  
Confession

#### STS. PETER AND PAUL, PETERSTOWN

Weekend Mass  
Confession

#### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

100 E. Sixth St.  
(815) 538-5587  
.....

Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor  
Cell: (815) 718-2191

Sunday Praise Worship  
Sunday school for all ages  
Traditional Worship

*Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, all in-person meetings, events and services have been postponed until further notice. Please visit our Facebook page (Mendota First United Methodist Church) to access all of our virtual content, which we are making available to help us stay in ministry during this difficult time.*

#### ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.  
.....

Pastor Hogun Kim  
(219) 765-1379

pastorhogunkim@gmail.com

Church office  
(815) 538-2186

Email: zionumcmendota@gmail.com  
Website: www.zionchurchumc.com

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE:**  
Worship & Children's Sunday School

#### COME AS YOU ARE BAPTIST CHURCH

900 Monroe St.  
(815) 503-0307  
.....

James Duncan, Pastor  
Website: www.cayabc.com

Email prayer requests: prayer@cayabc.com

**SUNDAY: Worship**  
Sunday School

*Written by Thomas Merton, 1968:*  
My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it  
will end.  
Nor do I really know myself, and  
the fact that I think I am following  
your will does not mean that I am  
actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to  
please you does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all  
that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything  
apart from that desire.  
And I know that if I do this you will  
lead me by the right road, though I  
may know nothing about it.  
Therefore will I trust you always  
though I may seem to be lost and  
in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever  
with me, and you will never leave  
me to face my perils alone.

Posted by Rev. Susan Presley

#### UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Route 251 North  
(815) 539-6861  
.....

Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor  
E-mail: mendotaupc@yahoo.com  
www.mendotaupc.org

**SUNDAY:** Christian Education  
Sunday Worship

**WEDNESDAY**

#### VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Faithful & Effective"

505 W. 7th Ave.  
(815) 539-9081  
.....

Pastor Steve Breedlove

**SUNDAY**

Sunday school  
Worship

**WEDNESDAY**

Prayer Service

#### NEW COVENANT ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Rt. 251 at Lake Mendota  
P.O. Box 54

Phone (815) 539-7107 (church)  
(815) 871-5702 (pastor)  
.....

Larry Sheaves, Pastor

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

"Preaching the blood, book and  
blessed hope."

Sunday School  
Worship

#### MENDOTA BIBLE CHURCH

Rt. 251, 1/2 mile south of  
Mendota  
(815) 538-6876  
.....

Brian Kelly, Pastor  
www.mendotabiblechurch.org

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

Sunday School  
Worship

Evening Service

#### ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

607 Tenth Ave.  
(815) 539-5626

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

Website:  
www.stjohnsmendota.org  
.....

**Schedule:**  
9 a.m. Sunday Worship in person  
and online via Facebook and Zoom

Find us on Facebook

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

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*Is not God in the height of heaven?  
And see the highest stars, how lofty they are!  
And you say, What does God know?  
Can He judge through the deep darkness?*  
JOB 22:12,13

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#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1003 5th St. • (815) 538-5603  
.....

Rev. Susan Presley

Website: fpcmendota.com

Accessible

**DIGITAL SCHEDULE:**

**Sunday Worship:**

Please see our Facebook page  
www.facebook.com/fpcmendota  
to see if we are open and to watch  
services live online at 10 a.m.

**Sunday Fellowship:**

https://us02web.zoom.  
us/j/85746317823

To call in for audio only, dial  
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting  
ID: 857 4631 7823

Live Zoom at 11 a.m.

Let's catch up!

**Wednesday Evening Gathering:**

Live Zoom at 7 p.m.

https://us02web.zoom.  
us/j/86402369150

To call in for audio only, dial  
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting  
ID: 864 0236 9150

Might be Bible Study, might be  
fellowship, might be sharing.

*No passwords are required for any  
of these, and the links and phone  
numbers will be good through the  
duration of our adventure.*

#### CHRIST'S CHURCH

"He is the Head of the Body, the  
Church . . . That in everything He  
might have the supremacy." Col. 1:18

1107 Main St. • (815) 503-1273  
.....

Dave Manion ♦ Jim McDowell  
Wayne Shuman

Please join us for . . .

Sunday Bible Study (all ages)  
Sunday Worship

Church Builders

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer

Saturday Men's Ministry

Non-denominational

Please call for more information

### COMPTON

#### IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

398 Church Road • Compton  
.....

Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger

(815) 539-6567

Wheelchair accessible

Website: www.ilccompton.org

E-mail: immanuellutheran  
compton@live.com

"Living in God's Grace as a  
Neighbor to the World"

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

Worship services are available  
weekly online through

facebook.com/ilccompton and  
YouTube. Please check out our  
website and our Facebook page

for more information as we  
transition back to in-person  
worship.

.....

#### COMPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

139 W. Chestnut • Compton  
(815) 497-2491  
.....

Pastor Dana Cox

pawpawumc@juno.com

Sunday Worship

### LA MOILLE

#### ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LaMoille (Clarion)  
4 miles west of Mendota on Rt. 34

(815) 539-7820  
.....

Sunday Worship

Sunday School

Accessible

#### COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

La Moille

(815) 638-2348  
.....

Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Nursery available

### TROY GROVE

#### FAITH BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

208 W. South St., Troy Grove  
.....

Pastor Brian Hamiel

Website: www.faithbiblefellowship.info  
E-mail: fbchurch20817@gmail.com

"At Faith Bible Fellowship, we exist  
to glorify God through the equipping  
of His saints, teaching of His Word  
and raising of His name.  
We would love to have you join us  
to worship and learn about  
our risen Savior."

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**SUNDAY SERVICE**



#### BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. What signal or mark did  
Judas use to betray Jesus to the  
religious leaders of the day?

3. In John 11:45-53, who was  
the high priest who called for  
Jesus' death? Elioneus, Joazar,  
Simon Cantheras, Caiaphas

4. When Mary Magdalene and  
"the other Mary" came upon  
the risen Jesus, who did He ask  
them to inform? Priests,  
Disciples, No one, Villagers

5. From John 20, which disciple  
doubted Jesus had risen unless  
he could see the wounds? Peter,  
Andrew, Thomas, Thaddeus

6. How long did Jesus remain  
after His resurrection before  
He ascended into heaven?

Instantaneously, 1 hour, 7 days,  
40 days

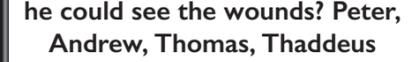


ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Gave Jesus a  
kiss; 3) Caiaphas; 4) Disciples;

5) Thomas (called Didymus);

6) 40 days (Acts 1:3)

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### Palm Sunday

March 28

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

CROSS BODY SHOP  
1213 Meriden, Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-7010

MENDOTA MONUMENT CO.  
606 Main St, Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-7276

SPORTS-N-STUFF, INC.  
804 Washington, Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-6354

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

EUREKA SAVINGS BANK  
1300 13th Ave., Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-5656

MERRITT FUNERAL HOME  
800 Monroe St., Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-7211

STEPHENITCH DO IT BEST HARDWARE  
1204 13th Ave., Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-9394

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

FIRST STATE BANK  
706 Washington St., Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 538-2265

PHALEN STEEL CONSTRUCTION  
Rte. 52 North, Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-9391

TRIPLE SERVICE, INC.  
801 Monroe, Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-3828



# Classified Marketplace

**FREE!** Sell your household items for free. Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words - one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



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

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 2, 2021 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Peter's Landscaping located at 207 13th Avenue, Mendota, IL. 61342.  
Dated: March 18, 2021.  
Pedro Arroyo Applicant.  
No. 0309  
(3/24, 3/31, 4/7 2021)

conducting and transacting the business known as Peter's Landscaping located at 207 13th Avenue, Mendota, IL. 61342.  
Dated: March 18, 2021.  
Pedro Arroyo Applicant.  
No. 0309  
(3/24, 3/31, 4/7 2021)

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL LAWN MAINTENANCE FOR THE 2021 SEASON

The attached bid specification is for mowing and trimming of 2 Township properties (4421 E 684th Rd, Mendota and 927 E IL St Rt 34, Earlville) owned by Meriden Township, LaSalle County.  
Your bid proposal shall be due on or before Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 4pm. Please submit bid to: Meriden Township, PO Box 536, Earlville, IL 60518, Attn: Clerk. Bids to be opened at monthly Meriden Township Meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm, located at 927 E. IL Rt 34, Earlville, IL 60518  
Should you have any questions, you may contact Carol Dilbeck, Meriden Township Clerk at (815) 530-4463.  
Mowing and trimming specifications: Properties to be mowed once per week, or as needed, height of grass not to exceed 4 inches. Job will be paid monthly thru the mowing season. Submit bids for each property (consider possible sale of Mendota property before end of season).  
Insurance Certificate. Before starting work the contractor shall furnish the Owner Certificate of Insurance signed by insurer acceptable to the owner, indicating that the owner will receive at least thirty (30) days prior written notice of cancellation or modification of the insurance that may affect owner's interest. The contractor assumes the responsibility for securing Certificate of Insurance for hired subcontractors.  
No. 0308  
(3/24, 2021)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Troy Grove Township Annual Town Meeting Notice is hereby given to the legal voters, residents of the Township of Troy Grove in the County of LaSalle and the State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, (being the second Tuesday) of said month at the hour of 8:00 p.m. at the Troy Grove Township Office Building for the transactions of the miscellaneous business of the said town; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as ; mileage rates, audit, meeting dates, building utility cost shares, Replacement Tax disbursement, Intergovernmental agreements, declare excess equipment, discuss purchase of new equipment/building and any business as may, in pursuance of the law, come before the meeting. Darlene Wujek, Town Clerk.  
No. 0310 (Mar. 24)

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

### 105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

### 113 FINANCIAL

**NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on March 15, 2021 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning,

### 113 FINANCIAL

**NOTICE** Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-

### 113 FINANCIAL

**HELP.** A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

### 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

### 203 HELP WANTED

**SPRING FARM HELP WANTED.** Experience helpful. Ashton area. 815-985-7119. (04-07-21)

**NEWSPAPER CARRIERS** Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For More Information.

**MOWING & LANDSCAPE** Work Help Needed. Call 815-562-5279 Leave Message. (03-28-21)

### 301 ANTIQUES

**WANTED TO BUY:** Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting...

### 301 ANTIQUES

Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

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

### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

### 203 HELP WANTED

**Part-time bartender** needed at Mendota VFW. Please call Bill Hunt at 815-883-4712. 03222021

## TEXT AND WHATEVER JUST DON'T TEXT AND

**STOPTEXTSSTOPWRECKS.ORG**

ad COUNCIL NHTSA

### 501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

### 601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

### 2020 Chevy Tahoe 4x4 LT Silver

GMC Certified with leather interior, heated/cooled seats, touchscreen radio and much more!

## \$49,900

**CHEVROLET CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED**

- 6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty
- 24/7 Roadside Assistance
- 172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process
- 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee

2020 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD, Loaded, GM Exec Black.....	\$45,900	2018 Chevy Equinox FWD LT Sunroof, 62K Miles Black.....	\$17,500
2019 Buick Encore Preferred FWD, 10k mi, White.	\$17,500		

### QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2018 Chevy K-3500 Crew Cab High Country, Diesel, 4x4 Black.....	\$51,900	2016 Chevy Traverse AWD 2 LT, Leather, 75K mi Maroon.....	\$18,500
2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew LTZ 4x4, Silver.....	\$33,900	2015 Chevy Traverse AWD LTZ, 90K mi, White....	\$18,900
2018 Chevy Traverse 3LT, AWD Leather, Gray.....	\$26,900	2015 Chevy Cruze LT Blue.....	\$9,000
2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, LT, Maroon.....	\$30,900		

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www.vaessenbrothers.com  
(815) 849-5232  
1-800-227-5203

\* Plus Tax, title and license. Rebates applied. Subject to credit approval.

**FIND NEW ROADS**

## ANTIQUER ARMS SHOW National Treasures Expo

Open to the Public  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday, March 26, 27 & 28  
Friday 4-9pm • Saturday 9am-5pm • Sunday 9am-3pm

**136 Sinsinawa, East Dubuque, IL**

**BATTLEFIELD GUNS** NOT YOUR USUAL GUN SHOW!  
Buy • Sell • Trade Pre-1898

**CUSTER BATTLEFIELD GUNS**  
from the Battle of Little Big Horn

Arms attributed to:  
Tom Custer, Doc Holliday, James B. Hickok, Jesse James & Emmett Dalton

**INDIAN WAR GUNS**

Call Mark for Private Viewing Appointments  
**563-590-4248**

## MENARDS

Looking for Individuals to join our Team  
Now Hiring at our Distribution Center  
Full Time & Part Time

**Monday March 29th – Friday April 2nd.**  
7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Plano Distribution Center  
2611 Eldamin Rd., Plano, IL 60545  
Apply in Person or online:  
www.menards.com/careers

\*Instant Profit Sharing \*Store Discount  
\*Shift & Weekend Premiums

Warehouse  
Production  
Yardhorse  
Industrial Mechanic

En busca de individuos para unirse a nuestro equipo  
Ahora la contratación en nuestro centro de distribución  
Tiempo completo y tiempo parcial

**Lunes 29 de marzo - Viernes 2 de abril**  
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Plano Distribution Center  
2611 Eldamin Rd., Plano, IL 60545  
Aplicar en persona o en línea  
www.menards.com/careers

Participación instantánea en los beneficios  
Primas por turnos y fin de semana

Almacen  
Producción  
Yardhouse  
Mecánica industrial

03222021

### INFORMATION

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

### DEADLINES:

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

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

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

### DISCLAIMER:

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

### 501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

# WHO CAN DO IT?

## BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

**SENIOR LIVING**

*Stonecroft Village*  
A Retirement Community  
**Senior Living Redefined**  
1700 Burlington St.  
Mendota, IL  
**815-538-5300**

**CHILD CARE**

**Earlville Early Learning Center**  
Child Care and Early Education for children from 6 weeks to 5 years old  
For more information, call 815-414-5497 or email [aschultz@earlville9.org](mailto:aschultz@earlville9.org)  
**Now Enrolling!**

**AUTO SALES**

**JP** **Mercedes-Benz**

**Carole Eich**  
Sales & Leasing Consultant

**JP Chevrolet Nissan - Mercedes-Benz**  
3675 Frontage Rd.  
Peru, IL 61354  
815-223-7000 • Fax: 815-224-4288 • [www.jpchevy.com](http://www.jpchevy.com)

**ASPHALT**

**Borchardt Asphalt**  
Seal Coating/Tar & Chip  
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Parking Lots  
Roads  
Tar & Chip  
Seal Coating  
Asphalt

**Daniel Borchardt**  
**309-361-9562**

**VETERINARIAN**

**COMPANION ANIMAL CENTRE**

MENDOTA COMPANION ANIMAL CENTRE  
Rt. 251 N. • Mendota • 815-539-6601  
M, T, TH, F 7:30am-6pm • W 8am-Noon  
[www.mendotavet.com](http://www.mendotavet.com)

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Quick, clean, courteous and careful...  
Give us a call to move your household!

**MEYERS BOY'S MOVING**  
HWY 251 S. • MENDOTA  
815-539-6263

**COMPUTER SALES & SERVICE**

DC COMPUTER SERVICE  
COMPUTER SALES & SERVICE

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Point of sale Desktops  
Phone repair Tablets Chromebook

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# REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE



**NEW LISTING**  
 202 15th St Mendota MLS#11021753 \$169,900. Very nice and comfortable 3 bedroom 2 bath ranch. Move in condition. You will not be disappointed. Home is sold as is however newer furnace, water heater, roof and sump pump. All appliances stay. Including freezer and fridge in basement. Perennials in the nicely landscaped lot. Call for all the amenities.



**NEW LISTING**  
 MLS #10967058 \$169,900 610 Sunset Ave, Earlville, IL Nice brick ranch, 2 bedroom with a partial basement. 2 car attached garage. Large Lot. Call McConville Realty for all the amenities.



**NEW LISTING**  
 1107 5th St, Mendota, \$120,000 MLS#10528563 Charming 3-4 bedroom home in good location. 1st floor laundry, master bedroom and bath on main level. Eat in kitchen and dining area. Lovely front porch, screened back porch. Newer roof, alley access. Call for all the amenities.

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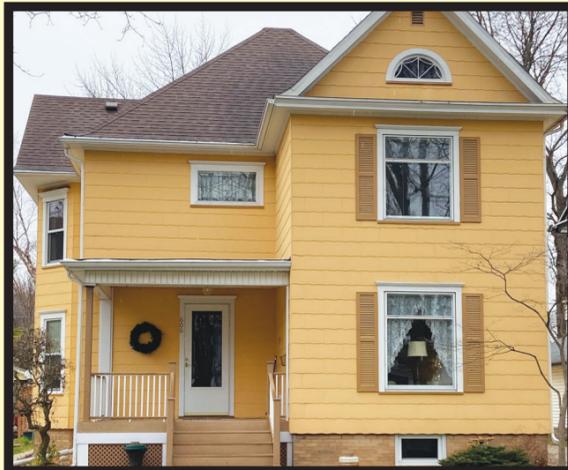
**THIS IS THE ONE! LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!** Beautiful large 2 story home, features include original staircase, hardwood flooring, large master suite, family room, breakfast room, dining room, sun porch, deck, and 2 car garage! Master bathroom updated and has a laundry area! LOTS OF ROOM IN THIS VICTORIAN HOME! Property being sold AS IS

## McConville REALTY & AUCTIONEERING

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## FEATURE HOME



**BEAUTIFUL VICTORIAN HOME.** Amazing hardwood floors (refinished in 2013), beautiful woodwork throughout, heated tile floors in the bathroom and kitchen, OAK cabinets in the kitchen boasts lots of space and storage, QUARTZ countertops, kitchen island. Large room sizes, family room plus living room and dining room. Whirlpool tub in the main floor bathroom. Original pocket doors. Three large bedrooms upstairs, also has another bonus room upstairs. Many Pella Windows with built in blinds throughout the home. Window blinds and curtains stay. Boiler replaced in 2009. Gas fireplace in the family room. Two sets of steps leading to the upstairs. Basement is unfinished however it's freshly painted, immaculately clean and could be made into extra rooms, used for storage or workshops etc. Basement windows were all replaced in 2019, the doors in the basement replaced in 2013. Front porch is maintenance free, the porch roof was replaced in 2019.

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**1506 Lincoln Ave., Mendota \$119,900**  
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**800 21st Street MENDOTA**  
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