



### Winter fun

Children enjoy heading down the Lake Mendota hill on their snow sleds on Feb. 21. The days of sledding may be winding down as daytime temperatures above the freezing mark are forecast for the foreseeable future, which will make a dent in the snow pack. (Reporter photo)

## MHS to retain its school resource officer program

❑ All teachers, most staff fully vaccinated

By **BONNIE MORRIS**  
Editor

MENDOTA – Mendota High School’s resource officer has been approved for another year. Reporting at the Feb. 18 Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Jeff Prusator said the administration is unanimous in their desire to keep the position, which costs the school \$44,290, adding that the City of Mendota is also interested in continuing the agreement.

“Officer Hochstatter is everything we hoped the resource officer would be,” Prusator said. “He has done many home visits, especially in the past year with so many remote learners. He has also spent time speaking and interacting with our in-person students.”

Prusator said he was also proud to announce that all MHS teachers had received their second vaccine dose as had about 90 percent of the high school’s staff members. He said the vaccine distribution went very smoothly thanks to the effort of OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, which did a phenomenal job.

### PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Principal Denise Aughenbaugh said juniors will be able to take an evening SAT prep class/workshop with Mendota High School faculty. The high school is securing faculty and designing the new workshop format so it is safe and follows all COVID-19 protocols. “We strongly encourage juniors to take the time to improve their test-taking skills prior to the college admission test,” she said.

As for the standardized tests that are usually given to freshmen and sophomores, that remains in question.

Aughenbaugh explained that the standardized tests are mandated by the federal government, not the state, and because of the pandemic, many states have requested getting waivers for this year. She said the logistics of having all 9th and 10 grade students come into the building to take the test while maintaining social distancing would be problematic.

Superintendent Jeff Prusator also expressed frustration over the standardized testing requirement, given the current circumstances. “Everyone is not even back in school yet,” he said. “I don’t know what they expect the tests to show.”

### Summer Bridges Program

• Aughenbaugh said this will be the fourth year of the summer Bridges Program for incoming freshmen at MHS. The high school is now in the planning stages to see about grant opportunities and offerings that District 289 could make to their students. More details will be presented to the board at the May meeting.

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

• Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled to take place March 30 and 31 from 4-7 p.m.

### Homecoming Week

• Although it will be very modified and COVID-friendly, Aughenbaugh said the Student Council still wants to organize something for Homecoming Week with various themes and activities.

### OTHER BUSINESS

The board approved Troy Phones of Spring Valley to replace the high school’s phone system at a cost of \$9,897 plus \$1,023 to partner

See Dist. 280, Page A5

## Governor signs criminal justice reform bill

By **RAYMON TRONCOSO**  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker signed a criminal justice omnibus bill on Feb. 22 backed by the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, abolishing cash bail, overhauling police certification and reforming use-of-force standards among numerous other provisions.

Pritzker signed the legislation, House Bill 3653, referred to as the “Safe-T Act,” during an event at Chicago State University alongside members of his administration and lawmakers from the Black Caucus.

“This legislation marks a substantial step toward dismantling the systemic racism

**“This legislation marks a substantial step toward dismantling the systemic racism that plagues our communities, our state and our nation, and brings us closer to true safety, true fairness and true justice.”**

—Gov. JB Pritzker

that plagues our communities, our state and our nation, and brings us closer to true safety, true fairness and true justice,” Pritzker said.

While the legislation received grassroots support from activists, buoyed by the growing national concern over policing following the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor last year, the bill faced strong opposition from Republican lawmakers

and law enforcement groups.

House Republican Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, called the signing “an insult to our first responders.”

“We live in a civilized state where our elected officials’ greatest responsibility is the health and safety of Illinois citizens. At a crucial time when we should coalesce around the good men and women of law enforce-

ment, Governor Pritzker has turned his back on them with his signature on House Bill 3653,” Durkin said in a statement released Monday.

Opponents of the legislation have said it will result in a less safe Illinois and have criticized the process behind its development as lacking in transparency without proper input from Republican lawmakers and the public at large.

Proponents say HB 3653 will make Illinois safer by making the justice system more equitable for Black, Latino, low-income and minority communities that

See Bill, Page A5

## Pritzker expects state vaccine deliveries to reach 500,000 this week

By **TIM KIRSININKAS**  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Gov. JB Pritzker announced that he expects the state to receive up to 500,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses from the federal government this week.

The state has administered over 2.2 million doses of the vaccine and is currently receiving close to 300,000 doses per week from the federal government.

Pritzker said that the anticipated increase in deliveries and availability of doses will allow the state to reach new heights in its vaccination efforts in the coming weeks.

“We have built processes and infrastructure to keep going and growing as supply increases,” Pritzker said. “And it’s because of that capacity that in the month of February, we’re administering among the highest number of doses per capita among the 10 most populous states in this nation.”

At the beginning of the month, Illinois had ranked as low as 47th in the country in per capita vaccines administered, according to a database from The New York Times. As of Feb. 18, Illinois ranked 18th among all states

with 12 percent of the state having received at least one dose of the vaccine, according to that database.

Pritzker said that vaccine delivery quantities have increased by nearly 30% in recent weeks. The governor also said he has “great hope” that a new single-dose vaccine from Johnson & Johnson will receive approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Feb. 26, making millions more doses available to states.

While the increase in deliveries means the state can begin to vaccinate eligible populations more quickly, Pritzker said the state has “a long way to go.”

“That doesn’t mean getting an appointment for a vaccine hasn’t been a frustrating experience,” Pritzker said. “It doesn’t mean that it isn’t frustrating for me as governor to not have enough supply coming into the state to provide for everyone who wants to be vaccinated.”

Currently, 850 vaccination sites have opened across the state, including mass vaccination sites in all regions of the state. Pritzker said members of the Illinois National



Guard will also be deployed to sites to assist local health departments in their vaccination efforts.

Under Phase 1B of the state’s vaccination plan, residents aged 65 and older and front-line essential workers are eligible to receive a vaccine. The state plans to expand Phase 1B to individuals aged 16 and older with comorbidities, disabilities, and underlying conditions by Feb. 25.

Pritzker also praised pharmacy providers for their efforts in improving vaccine administration at long-term care facilities. The doses are administered through a

Pharmacy Partnership program with the federal government at Walgreens and CVS pharmacies.

A total of 226,037 doses have been administered at long-term care facilities out of 445,200 doses allocated thus far.

“I feel very good about what’s happened with our long-term care facilities,” Pritzker said.

Pritzker praised Illinois residents adhering to public health guidelines, attributing the public’s diligence to attaining one of the lowest transmission rates in the country.

He urged residents to receive their vaccine as soon as they are eligible in order to move forward to the next phase of reopening.

“Now we’re all back in Phase 4, which is just before the end,” Pritzker said. “Please, when it’s your turn, when you can make an appointment, please get vaccinated. We need everybody to step up and do so.”

An estimated 3.2 million residents are currently eligible to receive vaccines under Phase 1B. Eligible residents can search for a vaccination site closest to them and make an appointment at coronavirus.illinois.gov.



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# LOCAL AND AREA

## MENDOTA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2021 VALENTINE BABY CONTEST

### Mendota Chamber announces Valentine Baby Contest winners

MENDOTA - Winners of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce 2021 Valentine Baby Contest have been announced.

In the girls category, 1st Place - Wren Saylor, daughter of Madison Coleman and Colton Saylor; 2nd Place - Lily Ruth McCoy, daughter of Erin McCoy.

For the boys 0-18 months category, 1st Place - Miles Wade, son of Dasie Newkirk and Ethan Wade; 2nd Place - Truman Robinson, son of Mark and Laura Robinson.

In the boys 19-36 months category, 1st Place - Brayden Barker, son of Brennan and Elissa Barker; 2nd Place - Conrad Michael Barkman, son of Travis and Gabi Barkman.



#### GIRLS



Wren Saylor



Lily McCoy

#### BOYS 0-18 MONTHS



Miles Wade



Truman Robinson

#### BOYS 19-36 MONTHS



Brayden Barker



Conrad Barkman

## Lego lovers wanted for new program at Graves-Hume Library

MENDOTA - Graves-Hume Public Library is offering a new family Lego program starting in March. To take part, just design your own Lego creation and it will be put on display in the Children's Department at the library.

This program is open to everyone. There is no need to register and a library card is not required.

All Lego builds and all Lego sizes will be accepted for this program - even Duplo. Simply bring in your

own creative Lego build during the drop-off time from March 1-5. Each child participating in the program will receive a Lego crayon mold and a Lego coloring challenge sheet. They will also get a Lego story book thanks to Friends of the Library, which sponsored the purchase of the books.

Carolynn Ohlendorf, Children Services Manager, looks forward to offering this program in Mendota. "Lego Club was a huge draw in our library, it was always one of my



**Graves-Hume  
Public Library**

favorite programs to host," she said. "I love their imagination, I love their

excitement, and I love and miss our standard Lego Club - so why not bring Lego Club home and foster literacy as well."

Lego builds may be dropped off March 1- 5 and they will be on display at the library through March 27. Lego designs can be picked up March 29-April 3. All ages are encouraged to participate.

Questions may be answered by calling Graves-Hume Public Library at (815) 538-5142.

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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Kish celebrates CTE Month as demand for technical education grows

♦ Vocational training becoming increasingly important in filling a variety of local jobs

MALTA-February marks Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month and Kishwaukee College, along with institutions across Illinois, are celebrating the initiative.

CTE focuses on providing students with the skills and training necessary to fill in-demand roles in the local workforce. Support for CTE is critical as technical and vocational careers are anticipated to play a large role in helping the economy recover from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. CTE programs can be adapted to local workforce demands, and Kishwaukee College has already played an active role in modeling its courses based on the needs of the community.

Kish actively works to create and offer vital health science programs as demand for skilled health care employees - such as nurses or medical assistants - continues to rise. The College created a Contact Tracer program when more people were needed to track the spread of COVID-19 infection. Kish is adjusting its Computer Information Systems courses to better meet the job skills needs for today's information technology environment.

During the last major economic downturn in 2008, many displaced workers chose to change industries when re-entering the job market, and the demand for CTE courses steadily increased.

Today, many who lost jobs because of the pandemic are considering career changes with a majority of American workers saying they prefer skill-based education and training to enhance their employability.

Both nationally and locally, CTE students have shown strong employment results upon graduating or earning a certificate from a program. After completing their program, 86 percent of adult CTE learners in the U.S. either continue their education or are employed within six months, according to the U.S. Department of Education. At Kish, 73 percent of CTE graduates have found work in a related field as of 2020, according to a Technical Graduate Survey, and 96.6 percent of those graduates are employed within the state of Illinois.

Kish's CTE programs offer flexible scheduling, work-based learning and stackable credentials that provide a pathway from education to employment. One short-term training or certificate can lead to new job opportunities in 16 weeks or less, but also gives students the option to continue their education and pursue a degree, while working in a new field.

For more information about Kish's post-secondary career and technical education programs, visit [www.kish.edu/cte](http://www.kish.edu/cte).

## EDUCATION BRIEFS

### UW-Platteville dean's list

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. - The University of Wisconsin-Platteville has announced its dean's list, honoring full-time students who earned high honors in the fall 2020 semester.

Local students included on the list are Marie Barnickel of Compton, an Agricultural Business major, and Lucas Anderson of Mendota, a Mechanical Engineering major.

The College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture and the College of Liberal Arts and Education require grade-point averages of 3.75 and above for dean's list honors, while the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science requires students to reach at least a 3.50.

For more information on the university visit [www.uwplatt.edu](http://www.uwplatt.edu).

### Marquette University dean's list

MILWAUKEE, Wis. - Brooke Carroll of Mendota has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2020 semester at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. Carroll is pursuing a Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies.

To make the dean's list, students must earn at least 12 credits for the semester and have no disqualifying grades. The GPA threshold varies by college - the College of Education and the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences require at least a 3.7 to be included.

The undergraduate GPA requirement is 3.5 for the

following colleges: the Die-dierich College of Communication, the College of Business Administration, the College of Health Sciences, the Opus College of Engineering and the College of Nursing. All other programs have a 3.75 GPA minimum.

Marquette University is a Catholic, Jesuit university that offers a comprehensive range of majors in 11 nationally and internationally recognized colleges and schools.

### Augustana College dean's list

ROCK ISLAND - Augustana College has announced more than 1,100 students were named to the dean's list for the 2020-21 fall semester. Three Mendota students are included on the list, Abby Phalen and Cameron Phalen, who are both majoring in biology, and Bryson Prusator, who is majoring in history education.

To earn this academic honor, students must maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a four-point scale for courses taken during the term.

### UWM dean's list

MILWAUKEE, Wis. - Reiss Buettner of Mendota has been named to the dean's list at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for the fall 2020 semester. Buettner is pursuing a degree in business.

UWM is the second largest university in the State of Wisconsin with more than 23,000 associate, undergraduate and graduate students.

## L.E.A.S.E. preschool screenings being held in Mendota March 8

MENDOTA - L.E.A.S.E. will hold preschool screenings for Mendota District 289 on Monday, March 8. The screenings will take place at First United Methodist Church, 100 E. Sixth St., Mendota.

These screenings are for children who will be 3 or 4 years old by March 8 and who will not attend kindergarten in the fall. L.E.A.S.E. will screen key developmental areas such as motor development, speech, language, vision, hearing

and general readiness. To make an appointment, call the L.E.A.S.E. office at (815) 433-6433. Due to COVID-19, only one parent may bring the child. Parents and children must wear masks.

All children must be screened to be eligible for the Preschool for All Program. Any child currently enrolled in the Mendota District Preschool for All Program does not need to be screened again. Applications for Mendota District 289 Preschool for All will be at the screenings.

## Obituary

### Lawrence E. Wujek

MENDOTA - Lawrence "Larry" E. Wujek, 72, of Mendota, passed away Feb. 20, 2021 at his home.

Private family graveside services will be at Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota with Father Peter Pilon officiating. Military rites will be conducted by Mendota VFW Post 4079. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

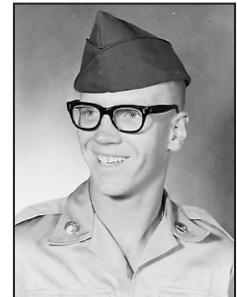
Larry was born March 21, 1948 in Mendota to Steve and Ann Marie (Schmitt) Wujek.

Survivors include one son, Stephen (Maricel) Wujek and two grandchildren, Makayla and Patrick, of Clearfield, Utah; two brothers, David (Cheri) Wujek of Galesburg and Richard (Vicki) Wujek of Mendota; two sisters, Peggy Heinz of Bloomington and Diane (Richard) Lang of Germantown Hills; and five nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Larry was a 1966 graduate of Mendota High School. After high school, he served in the U.S. Army and was deployed to Vietnam for 22 months and did two tours of duty. He took pride in being a veteran. After returning from Vietnam, he joined his father as a carpenter in Mendota and continued in the trade after his father's death in 1975. More recently he was employed as a machine maintenance worker for Del Monte in Mendota. In his younger days, he was an avid bowler and continued to be a Chicago White Sox and Bears fan. Later in life, he became an avid coin collector. Larry had a dry sense of humor and could deliver one-liners with the best of them. He was always generous with his time and with the loan of his carpentry tools to friends and family.

Memorials may be made to Compassus Hospice, Mendota VFW Post 4079 or the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at [www.merrittfh.com](http://www.merrittfh.com).



## CARL'S QUIZ

What is the legal term for a voluntary written statement made under oath?

The answer to last week's quiz is: Abraham Lincoln was inducted in the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1992. Lincoln was a skilled wrestler - but his wrestling exploits did not resemble modern-day professional wrestling.

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

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## Mendota Weather

Feb. 24, 2021

### Seven Day Forecast

**Wednesday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 36 Low: 21

**Thursday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 31 Low: 15

**Friday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 35 Low: 28

**Saturday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 39 Low: 33

**Sunday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 37 Low: 29

**Monday**  
Cloudy  
High: 36 Low: 30

**Tuesday**  
Sunny  
High: 33 Low: 25

### In-Depth Forecast

Wednesday we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 36°, humidity of 87%. Northwest wind 9 to 13 mph. The record high temperature for Wednesday is 57° set in 1984. Expect partly cloudy skies Wednesday night with an overnight low of 21°. Northwest wind 10 mph. The wind chill for Wednesday night could reach 11°. The record low for Wednesday night is -14° set in 2015.

### Last Week's Local Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Monday	4	-1	31/15	0.00"
Tuesday	13	-5	32/15	0.00"
Wednesday	15	-6	32/15	0.00"
Thursday	22	7	32/16	0.00"
Friday	23	2	33/16	0.00"
Saturday	30	8	33/16	0.00"
Sunday	38	17	33/17	0.00"

### Regional Cities

City	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx
Aurora	39/21	mc	33/15	pc
Champaign	43/25	mc	39/20	pc
Chicago	38/22	mc	34/18	pc
Freeport	37/17	mc	31/12	pc
Joliet	39/21	mc	34/15	pc
Moline	38/20	pc	33/17	pc
Peoria	41/25	mc	39/21	pc
Rockford	38/19	mc	32/14	pc
Springfield	44/26	mc	40/22	pc

Data as reported from Peru, Ill.

### Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	6:38 a.m.	5:41 p.m.	2:41 p.m.	5:18 a.m.
Thursday	6:36 a.m.	5:42 p.m.	3:51 p.m.	6:00 a.m.
Friday	6:35 a.m.	5:43 p.m.	5:04 p.m.	6:36 a.m.
Saturday	6:33 a.m.	5:45 p.m.	6:18 p.m.	7:08 a.m.
Sunday	6:32 a.m.	5:46 p.m.	7:32 p.m.	7:37 a.m.
Monday	6:30 a.m.	5:47 p.m.	8:46 p.m.	8:05 a.m.
Tuesday	6:29 a.m.	5:48 p.m.	10:01 p.m.	8:32 a.m.

### National Weather Summary This Week

The Northeast will see partly to mostly cloudy skies with isolated rain and snow, highest temperature of 54 in Leonardtown, Md. The Southeast will experience mostly clear skies with the highest temperature of 79 in Pembroke Pines, Fla. The central United States will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 81 in Laredo, Texas. In the Northwest there will be mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 52 in Roseburg, Ore. The Southwest will see mostly clear skies with the highest temperature of 79 in Thermal, Calif.

### Weather History

**Feb. 24, 1936** - Vermont and New Hampshire received brown snow due to dust from storms in the Great Plains Region. A muddy rain fell across parts of northern New York State.

**Feb. 25, 1989** - Thirteen cities in Florida reported record low temperatures for the date, including Jacksonville with a reading of 24 degrees. Severe cold in Florida claimed three lives and resulted in 250 to 300 million dollars crop damage.

### Local UV Index

0-2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+

### 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 can crickets be used to determine the temperature?



Answer: Count the number of chirps in 14 seconds and add 40.

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# OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

## Luis Castaneda

MENDOTA - Luis Castaneda, 94, of Mendota passed away Feb. 15, 2021 at his home, surrounded by his loving family.

Public visitation was held from 5-7 p.m. on Feb. 19 at the Wasmer Funeral Home. Masks were required and social distancing was observed. Mass of Christian burial was at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 20 at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Mendota with Rev. Peter Pilon officiating. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery. Wasmer Funeral Home assisted the family.

Luis was born Aug. 15, 1926 in Atolinga, Mexico to Dionecio and Solada (Artega) Castaneda. He married Maria Auxillo Artega on May 10, 1950 in Atolinga.

Survivors include his wife, Maria Auxillo of Mendota; four sons, Francisco (Margarita) Castaneda, Juan Antonio (Eva) Castaneda and Margarito (Candida), all of Mendota, and Salvador (Maria P.) Castaneda of Franklin Park; two daughters, Josefina (Ignacio) Artega and Rosy (Jose Martin) Artega, both of Monmouth; 28 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two daughters, Jovita Castaneda and Florina Castaneda; one son, Doroteo Castaneda; one granddaughter, Florina Artega; his parents; one brother, Ausencio Castaneda; and three sisters, Elodia Castaneda, Librada Castaneda and Consuelo Castaneda.

Luis was a cattle farmer his whole working life. He was a faithful member of Holy Cross Church.

Memorials may be directed to the family.

Condolences may be directed to wasmerfuneralhome.com.



## Peggy P. Schlichtemeier

SEDONA, Ariz. - Peggy P. Schlichtemeier, 71, of Sedona, Ariz. passed away Feb. 11, 2021 after a short battle with Leukemia.

A private family service will be held at a later date.

Peggy was born May 4, 1949 in Lincoln, Neb. to Russell and Jean Reinig, the second of 11 children. She married the love of her life, Ernie Schlichtemeier in 1979.

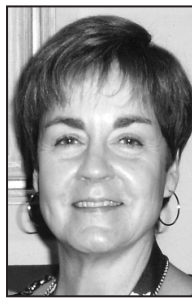
Survivors include her husband, Ernie; his children, Rick Schlichtemeier, Terri Koster and Julie Sitzmann; six siblings, Kathy (Dave) Dixon, Robert (Evelyn) Reinig, Paul Reinig, Mary (Wes) Carlton, Dan Reinig and Jeri (Bob) Bierbower; one brother-in-law, Gary (Nadine) Schlichtemeier; one sister-in-law, Norma (Gus) Knollenberg; three grandchildren, Elizabeth Hopkins, Danielle Mulcahey and Ryan Mulcahey; and numerous nieces and nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by her parents and four brothers, Mike Reinig, Charles Reinig, Dave Reinig and Tom Reinig.

Peg graduated from Pius X High School in Lincoln, Neb. in 1967, and then pursued a degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Following that, she moved to Taiwan for a year before returning to the U.S. and working for Goodyear as a manager in their quality control department. There, she met the love of her life, Ernie Schlichtemeier. After marrying, they began the numerous worldwide residences where Goodyear assigned Ernie. She was a devoted wife and looked at every move as an opportunity to make their new location better than it was before they arrived. She left her mark in Newton, Kan., Marietta, Ga., Canal Fulton, Ohio (where she volunteered as activities director of a nursing home and taught at a prison), Mendota (where she opened her own business, Kids' Stuff, and was very active in the Jr. Women's Club), Chatham, Canada (where she learned to speak French), Sao Paulo, Brazil (where she learned to speak Portuguese and Spanish), Lincoln, Neb., Norfolk, Neb. (where at age 44 she drove to Vermillion, S.D. every week to earn her Master's degree so she could teach at the college level, which she then did at Wayne State College, Wayne, Neb.), Ching Dao, China (where she learned Chinese, was editor of the ExPat newsletter, and was a leader in a group that raised money for children's school supplies), Raleigh, N.C. (where she again taught at the prison), Almaty, Kazakhstan (where she learned to speak Russian and was the chairperson of the Business Department at KIMEP University), back to Ching Dao, China, (editor of the ExPat newsletter again) and then Quinta, Ecuador (where she taught English). After retiring, she and Ernie settled in Beaufort, S.C., where she was a political leader who recruited volunteers for the voting polls. Their final stop was in Sedona, Ariz., where she was very active in the Sedona Women's Club and Rotary Club. Additional international travels included Australia, Thailand, Greece, France, Egypt, Argentina, Peru and Mexico, to name a few.

Peg was a road rally navigator, first mate sailor, scuba diver, water skier, snow skier, excellent seamstress and a tireless volunteer. Perhaps her most lasting legacy was the development and creation of First Books of Beaufort, S.C. and Verde Valley First Books in Sedona, Ariz., which put new books into the hands of over 1,300 preschool-aged, at risk children to date, and is still growing. She lived by her favorite quote from Mother Teresa: "We can do no great things; only small things with great love."

Memorial contributions are suggested to First Books of Beaufort, P.O. Box 291, Port Royal, SC, 29935. Condolences may be left for the family at www.greensmortality.com.



## Anita C. Cenkar

MENDOTA - Anita C. Cenkar, 92, of Mendota passed away Feb. 21, 2021 at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center Mendota.

Graveside services will be private due to COVID-19. Wasmer Funeral Home is privileged to assist the family.

Anita was born Dec. 13, 1928 in Oglesby to Edward and Anna (Crowley) Brown. She married William Cenkar on June 22, 1946 in Oglesby at the Oglesby Union Church. He preceded her in death on Dec. 8, 2015.

Survivors include one grandson, Scott Cenkar of Rolling Meadows; one great-granddaughter, Ember Cenkar; and one daughter-in-law, Judith (Adam) Smith of Eugene, Ore.

She was preceded in death by her husband and one son, Scott on Nov. 8, 1988.

Anita was a secretary for Northbrook School District 289 until her retirement. She was a member of the Class Thunderbird Club International.

Memorials may be directed to Illinois Valley Animal Rescue.

Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.

## Marilyn Faber

COUNTRYSIDE - Marilyn Faber, 86, peacefully passed away on Feb. 1, 2021 surrounded by her beloved husband of 63 years, Dr. LeRoy Penfield Faber, and her cherished children.

Visitation was held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Feb. 9 at Hollowell & James Funeral Home in Countryside. Funeral service was private.

Marilyn was born in 1934 in Herrin. She married Penfield Faber of Mendota in 1957.

Survivors include her husband; four children, Kimberly (Mike) Olsen, Blair (Lisa) Faber, Whitney (Mike) Kessler and Allison (Mike) Walsh; and 10 grandchildren.

Marilyn graduated from Herrin High School and then attended Northwestern University. While at Northwestern, she was inducted into the Pi Beta Phi sorority where she and her close friends thoroughly enjoyed both the academic and social life. She was also a proud member of the renowned Waa-Mu Show, a Northwestern University musical, written, performed and presented each year by Northwestern students. During her senior year at Northwestern, she met the love of her life, Penfield Faber, who was a senior medical student at Northwestern. They graduated together in 1956 on the Northwestern football field and were married one year later.

Marilyn's generous spirit and enormous impression extended into her community. She always loved history, which prompted her involvement in and dedication to the La Grange Area Historical Society where she began volunteering over 35 years ago. She worked tirelessly recording donations and assisting in the creation of many exhibits that the area public always appreciated and enjoyed. Her creativity and passion for history helped to create beautiful exhibits for the Society. Most importantly, she cherished the very deep and close friendships she developed while volunteering there. The volunteers became a tight knit group and she loved creating exhibits, brainstorming ideas and the weekly Wednesday lunches with her dear group of friends. She also served as a longtime board member of the Society.

Penfield's career as a surgeon provided many opportunities to travel to numerous world medical conferences and meetings. Marilyn very much enjoyed traveling around the world to these events with him and developed close and strong friendships with the spouses of his colleagues. Reunions of these groups were always enjoyed, and their friendships persist to this day.

The world lost a treasured wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She made a tremendous impact on all their lives. She was the pure definition of grace and resilience, forever leaving an example of love and kindness. Her kindness, generous spirit and wit radiated joy and warmth for everyone in her presence. Marilyn was an elegant lady, a devoted wife and a caring and loving mother and grandmother. Her children and husband were the most important things in her life, and they all felt her love and devotion daily. She will always be remembered as making everyone in her presence feel welcomed and loved. She will be dearly missed and forever remembered.

In celebration of Marilyn's generous spirit and in lieu of flowers, her family encourages those who wish to honor her life make a donation to the La Grange Area Historical Society, 444 South La Grange Road, La Grange, IL 60525. Please list "In memory of Marilyn Faber" on the memo line.



## Robyn H. Bomstad

EARLVILLE - Robyn H. Bomstad, 64, of Earlville passed away peacefully Feb. 15, 2021 at her home surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with cancer.

According to Robyn's wishes, there will be no visitation and a private family memorial service will be held at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Earlville with Father Ghislain Inai S.M.A. officiating. Private burial of Robyn's urn will follow at Precinct Cemetery, rural Earlville. Cremation was entrusted to Hanley-Turner-Eighner Funeral Home in Earlville.

Robyn was born March 24, 1956 in Mendota to Ernie and Dora (Whitlock) Russell. She married Don Bomstad on Dec. 16, 1972 in Earlville.

Survivors include her husband; three sons, Kevin (Heather) Bomstad of Earlville, Ryan (Layla) Bomstad of Plainfield and Adam (Amy) Bomstad of Shorewood; eight grandchildren, Colin, Carson, Hayden, Lana, Regan, Baize, Cayle and Pyper Bomstad; three brothers, Robert (Susan) Russell of Pontiac, Pat (Jane) Russell of Earlville and Gregg (Cindy) Russell of Pontiac; six sisters, Rusty (Mary Agnes) Russell of Chicago, Ernestine (Gerry) Tuftie of Flanagan, Anna (Charlie) Svendsen of Earlville, Rita Fox of Chicago, Joan Perkins of Earlville and Debbie Spears of Tucson, Ariz.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one granddaughter, Hadley Bomstad; and one brother, Jeff Russell.

Robyn was a 1974 graduate of Earlville High School and a member of St. Theresa Catholic Church in Earlville. She worked at CTS Knights Inc. in Sandwich for many years. Prior to her retirement, she worked at Somonauk High School. She enjoyed golfing, cooking, boating and spending time at the lake home in Tennessee. Most of all, she loved spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Memorials may be directed to the Earlville Ambulance Fund or OSF Saint Paul Foundation in Mendota. To sign the online guestbook go to www.EighnerFuneralHomes.com.



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See additional OBITUARY, Page A3

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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Bill

Continued from Page A1

have been disproportionately harmed by disparate policies in sentencing, incarceration and policing.

Members of the Black Caucus have countered claims against the bill's transparency by pointing to nine subject matter hearings held by the caucus in state Senate committees between September and November. For nearly 30 hours, lawmakers from both parties, law enforcement, judges, state's attorneys, legal experts, representatives of the court, the governor's office and the attorney general's office hashed out many of the issues that became provisions in the bill, such as the abolition of cash bail by 2023 and police certification.

The office of the governor and Attorney General Kwame Raoul held working meetings over several months starting in July with representatives from both chambers and parties, Fraternal Order of Police groups, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and the Illinois Sheriffs' Association.

The actual written legislation was introduced to the General Assembly during the five-day lame duck session in January where lawmakers attempted to pass a years-worth of laws in a legislative blitz following the disruption of the regular session by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The final version of the bill was introduced after midnight on the final day of the lame-duck, where it received just enough votes to pass both chambers with less-than-an-hour of floor-debate.

Here is what HB 3653, now law, does.

### Pretrial detention

Starting on Jan. 1, 2023, all bail bonds and conditions of bail will be replaced by a system of pretrial release to be developed by the Illinois courts based on a detainee's alleged crime, their risk of not appearing for their court date, and the threat or danger they may pose to an individual or community if released. Illinois is the first state to completely abolish cash bail by statute. Washington, D.C. does not use cash bail, and New Jersey effectively eliminated cash bail in most

cases in 2017.

Exceptions from pretrial release under the new law include forcible felonies such as first-degree murder, sexual assault, arson and any other felony involving the use or threat of physical force; stalking and aggravated stalking where the defendant poses a threat to the victim if released; abuse or battery of a family member where their release poses a danger to that family member; gun crimes where the defendant poses a threat to a specific, identifiable person; and cases where the defendant has committed a felony that wouldn't otherwise result in detention but they are considered a high risk of fleeing prosecution and missing their court date.

The law would place the burden on the state to prove an individual should be detained, rather than the individual proving that they should go free. Prosecutors would submit a request for an individual's detention, and judges would be required to put their reasoning for granting the pre-trial detention.

Proponents of the bill say the new system of detention will make Illinois safer while preventing discrimination and abuse in the court system.

"Cash bond says if you are poor then you get a lower tier of safety," Democratic Sen. Robert Peters, a sponsor of the bill and longtime activist against cash bail, said at Monday's signing. "If you are poor and Black, you get an even lower tier of safety. If you're a poor, Black and a woman, you get an even lower tier of public safety."

Sen. John Curran, R-Downers Grove, said Republicans would support ending cash bail using a system similar to New Jersey's, which he called a "gold standard" that would have had "bipartisan support."

"Detention should not be determined based on ability to pay, there's no doubt about that," he said in an interview Monday. "But you have to replace it with a system that provides at least the same level of public safety in pre-trial services and that was not done here."

Curran said the new system, by restricting what crimes are eligible for pre-trial detention, removes

discretion from judges and makes the pool of detainable offenders too narrow to keep the public safe.

The crafters of the reform bill say the narrowness of the provision is the point, and that Illinois will actually be safer for historically disadvantaged communities if judges are not able to detain individuals before their trial for minor crimes like retail theft due to the inability to pay for bail.

### Use of force

House Bill 3653 establishes the intent of the General Assembly to establish statewide use-of-force standards by 2022.

It changes current standards by banning chokeholds and any actions that restrict breathing being used above the chest unless in a situation that authorizes deadly force.

Under the law, use of force is only allowed when it is necessary for the officer to defend themselves or others from bodily harm when making an arrest. When a suspect is attempting to escape arrest, officers are only authorized to use deadly force if that person is unable to be caught at a later date and is likely to harm others.

Officers must make a reasonable effort to identify themselves as law enforcement and warn suspects before they can use deadly force, with some exceptions.

Law enforcement is prohibited from using deadly force against individuals committing property crimes unless that crime is tied to terrorism or to another crime or action where deadly force is permitted.

The law also creates a duty to intervene when another officer is using excessive force, and a duty to provide medical assistance to injured persons regardless of who they are.

### Police certification

Under House Bill 3653, the state will have more pow-



Gov. JB Pritzker holds up the criminal justice reform bill he signed into law.

er over the certification and hiring of law enforcement at every agency through the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, known as ILETSB.

Before this legislation ILETSB could only decertify an officer under very narrow circumstances. They had to be convicted of a felony or a limited set of misdemeanors such as offering a bribe, prostitution or criminal sex abuse.

The new law grants ILETSB broader discretionary authority to decertify officers for unethical or unprofessional conduct that would otherwise not rise to the level of a felony. All law enforcement agencies would be required to only hire certified officers, and officers would need to recertify under the system every three years.

Critics of the legislation have claimed allowing anonymous complaints against officers is an unfair provision that will result in officers being fired for frivolous complaints.

However, proponents such as Raoul contend that the filtering system contained in the statute makes that virtually impossible. Complaints against officers must go through a preliminary review, a full investigation, an ILETSB evaluation, a formal hearing before an administrative law judge, a

vote from the Illinois Law Enforcement Certification Review Panel and a final vote by ILETSB to result in decertification.

Pritzker was asked at Monday's signing if it was unfair that criminals can have their records expunged while officers who commit misconduct have the complaint permanently tied to their file. The governor and attorney general said that was in line with every other profession that requires certification in Illinois, from medical doctors to lawyers.

### Body cameras

The new law also makes body camera mandatory for law enforcement agencies statewide. The largest departments must have body cameras in place by 2022, while all agencies, no matter how small, must have body cameras implemented by 2025.

The law does not include statutory funding for departments to comply with the law.

Republicans have referred to the unfunded mandate as especially harmful to smaller municipalities that cannot afford implementing body cameras and have said it will lead to a reduced police presence statewide.

Law enforcement by and large has expressed support for body camera usage but some groups have raised

concerns about the prohibitive cost and impact on their budgets.

Sen. Elgie Sims, D-Chicago, one of the bill's chief crafters and chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, called funding for body cameras "a priority" in budget talks.

"This will be an area that we will certainly be working on and talking through throughout the rest of the session," he said.

Sims pointed out that the governor's budget proposal includes \$3.2 million for body cameras in the current fiscal year, going to a fund that already contains \$2.1 million for Illinois agencies to use.

Curran estimated the annual funding needed to support body cameras statewide would be \$10 million-\$12 million, according to discussions with law enforcement groups.

The bill also contains numerous provisions on sentencing reform, equipment procurement for law enforcement, victim services, mental health services, officer training, prisoner and detainee rights, among others.

Supporters and opponents of the new law agreed there is a need for follow-up legislation to address unintended consequences.

"We will have these discussions on an ongoing basis," Sims said. "I'm certainly open to more than anyone else but what I'm not going to do is undermine the substance and the intent of the law, which is to create new safety, accountability and fairness and equity for all communities."

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Dist. 280

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with the intercom system. Prusator said the replacement was necessary because the high school's phone system, which was installed when the high school was built, had been unreliable for some time.


### PERSONNEL

Following closed session, the board hired Rey Arteaga as assistant boys' and girls' soccer coach.

They also approved the following certified or licensed teachers 2020 to 2021:


Year 4 to Tenure – Melissa Sallee, Family and Consumer Science; Year 3-4 – Keegan Hill, Special Education; Rob Nunn, Physical Education; Year 2-3 – Alisa Stewart, Science; Year 1-2 – Paula Baker, Band; Kristi Barajas, Special Education; Nicole Cromwell, Science; Joseph Hughes, Science; Jon Steben, Choir and Assistant Band.

The next regular board of education meeting will be held at the high school on Monday, March 15 at 6 p.m.



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**Wednesday is Family Style Chicken night!**  
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# OPINION

## The Mendota Reporter

Award-winning Newspaper IPA/NINA  
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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.

## Temper justice, show mercy

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD – I once spent Valentine's Day on Illinois' death row.

I couldn't help thinking about the strangest Valentine's experience I've ever had. I spent Feb. 14, 2000, in the death row visitor's room at the Pontiac Correctional Center.



Reeder

I was there to interview a mentally-ill death row inmate who had become lost in the system. His schizophrenia had incapacitated him to such a degree that he couldn't assist with his appeals.

When making arrangements for the interview, I hadn't thought about it being Valentine's Day. The realization hit me when I walked through the prison gates and surveyed the visitor's room.

Women from across Illinois were there dressed in their nicest clothes, visiting their husbands and boyfriends on that day set aside for romance.

And make no mistake, folks, there was love in that room.

Our society doesn't like to talk about this. It's far easier to vilify those a judge and jury have ruled so worthless that they shouldn't be allowed to live.

But the more striking thing about the room was how ordinary the men were, their faces could blend in at most Illinois diner -- or my high school yearbook.

I shared this observation with actor Mike Farrell, who played Captain B.J. Hunnicutt on the old MASH series. Farrell, an opponent of the death penalty, has spent a lot of time visiting those sentenced to death.

"You know, Scott, these guys don't have horns growing out of their heads," he told me during a phone interview.

My view on the death penalty has evolved. When I was younger, my trite philosophy on capital punishment was: "Some people just don't deserve to live."

But then I met a man named Gary Gauger. He was wrongly convicted of murdering his parents in rural McHenry County. He served two years on Illinois' death row before his conviction was thrown out.

I met Gauger back in 2000 when he dropped by my office, which was then in the Illinois statehouse. He told a tale of wrongful conviction and left me speechless. He wasn't released on a technicality. He was freed because someone else did the crime.

In recent decades, Illinois sentenced 13 men to die who were factually innocent. And those are just the mistakes we know about. Wrongful convictions are a persistent problem in our justice system.

In the past two decades, I've personally met more than 100 people convicted of murders they did not commit. Most had spent decades behind bars before a judge determined a mistake had been made. Courts and police departments are like any human institution: they're prone to making mistakes.

My faith commands me to speak up. After all, Christianity is a religion that had its beginning with an unfair trial, a wrongful conviction and a horrendous execution.

My political philosophy is libertarian, which means I support limited government. And let's face it, there is no greater intrusion of government than when it chooses to kill one of its own citizens.

For these reasons, I'm glad Illinois no longer has capital punishment.

The ending of this abhorrent institution can be credited to two governors: George Ryan and Pat Quinn.

Quinn signed the legislation outlawing the death penalty. It was a position different than the platform he ran for office on, but in hindsight I'm glad he changed his mind. Illinois is a better place without capital punishment.

Gov. George Ryan also deserves credit. During his four years in office, he moved from being a supporter of the death penalty to being the nation's most vocal opponent of capital punishment. He is the man who emptied Illinois' death row when he commuted 167 death sentences.

When he did this, many family members of victims were angry. They said they wanted the "closure" that they believed would only come if the person who killed their loved one was also killed. I'm sorry, but how can one death erase the pain of another death?

Three years ago, I was reporting in Santa Fe, Texas, where a gunman entered a school and killed 10 people and wounded a dozen more. Repeatedly, I heard those who had lost a family member bemoan the fact that the killer was only 17, which meant he was not eligible for the death penalty in Texas.

Would killing him somehow bind up the community's wounds and make the pain go away? It's doubtful. But that's part of the mythology that surrounds capital punishment.

I'm not naïve. I know there are bad people among us who should be banished forever from society. That's a sad reality. And that is what prisons are for.

What does society gain by killing its own? Retribution? Justice?

Well, it's time to temper justice with a bit of mercy. (Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist. He works as a freelance reporter in the Springfield area. Scottreeder1965@gmail.com)



## The big blizzard of 1979

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from Feb. 25, 2004.)

By Jessica Nashold

It was 25 years ago that a blizzard struck, in January 1979. Roads closed and schools were faced with 14 'snow days.' Since only five 'snow days' had been anticipated, the discrepancy had to be accounted for. The school boards discussed a number of alternatives. Perhaps they could extend the school year by a few days. Or perhaps they could lengthen school days until the required number of days had been spent in the classrooms. These options were still being considered in February 1979.

### Disaster Aid

In Illinois, 41 counties had been declared eligible for Federal Disaster Aid. LaSalle County was one of them. A Small Business Administration Office was set up in Ottawa. It would receive reports of storm damage from cities, businesses and homeowners. The SBA would assist in preparing claims to be forwarded to the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration. Mendota had a deadline of Feb. 21, 1979, to submit the required figures. In addition to making sure claims for reimbursement were in proper form, the SBA officer would assist in making out applications for low-interest loans. Early estimates placed the city's storm-related expense at \$50,000. Temporarily, this sum might be borrowed from a reserve and replaced when Federal reimbursement was received.

### Snow Removal

The city's major expense was the cost of snow removal. It so happened that Bob Preston, street superintendent, was on vacation in Florida when the blizzard hit. Some private trucks were hired to assist the city workers. At first, one of the aldermen made motion that Preston be dismissed. Mayor Louis Koopersmith was receiving treatment for cancer at a hospital in Rochester,

## Backtracks & Sidetracks

Minn., and Alderman Larry Martens was acting mayor. He immediately called a special session of the city council to act on the motion to dismiss. The result was a decisive defeat of the motion, with five aldermen voting to retain Preston and two voting to dismiss. One alderman abstained from voting.

### WGLC Reports Kind Acts

Mendota Radio WGLC began receiving letters from listeners reporting acts of kindness they had witnessed during the height of the storm. It began featuring these letters on its "Town Talk" program. This feature became so popular that the station launched a contest. The prize for the best letter about service rendered during the blizzard would be a plaque, dinner for two at a local restaurant and a guest appearance on a "Town Talk" broadcast. There was no deadline for this contest.

### Reporter Photo Contest

The Mendota Reporter set a Feb. 17, 1979 deadline to enter a contest for the best three pictures of the blizzard. The winning entries were published in the Feb. 28, 1979 issue.

**1st prize - \$30: Frank Hauger, RR1, Earlville**  
**Car buried in snow near his home**  
**2nd prize - \$20: Kathleen Kessinger, Mendota**  
**Stop sign almost submerged in snow**  
**3rd prize - \$10: Everett Althaus, Mendota**  
**Car driving in lane through snow drift**

### Other News of 1979

Officer James Nurnberg responded

to a call from Charles McLaughlin, superintendent of the Water Department. A raccoon was occupying a crawl space at the new water tower. While removing it, Nurnberg received a bite and was taken to Mendota Community Hospital where he was treated and released. The raccoon was taken to Loomis Animal Clinic where it was destroyed and sent to the state laboratory for examination.

Cub Scouts competed for trophies in the annual Pinewood Derby. The entries were judged by members of the Mendota Kiwanis Club. Trophies were supplied by the American Legion, purchased through Judy Parks at Gish Jewelry.

It was believed the days of parking meters in Mendota were numbered. The Chamber of Commerce had long maintained that other communities, with better parking arrangements, were drawing business away from Mendota. Time limits, but without meters, was one option under consideration.

Meals on Wheels was suffering a shortage of volunteer drivers. Sharon Vaughan, director of the program, said meals were prepared at Mendota Community Hospital and ready for pick-up at 11:30. The charge was \$2.50, when able to pay. Recipients were to supply table settings, salt, pepper, sugar, hot beverage, bread and butter. Volunteer Harold Lown, 74, retired from Black Bros., said the delivery routes required minimum time. He welcomed the opportunity to provide this service.

There were 37 members of the Newcomers Club present when they met in February 1979. Royce Novak was president and Sandi Maas was treasurer.

The Treadle Shop, at 806 Monroe St., advertised sewing classes that would begin at the shop on Feb. 27, 1979, at 7 p.m.

## Biden is too timid on school reopening

By Rich Lowry

It's an old political trick to make an easily achievable goal sound vauntingly ambitious in order to brag about it when it's inevitably met.

It takes another level of chutzpah, though, to set out as a target something that has already happened.

The press has portrayed President Joe Biden's goal of reopening the majority of K-12 schools in his first 100 days as so far-reaching that the timeline might have to be extended.

Enter White House press secretary Jen Psaki, who explained recently that the administration defines a school as open if it holds in-classroom instruction at least once a week.

By this metric, the goal isn't really having more than half of schools open -- it's having more than half of schools still 80% closed.

Not only is this a ridiculous standard, schools have already cleared the bar. According to Burbio, which runs a school-opening tracker, about two-thirds of K-12 students are attending in-person or hybrid schools.

This goalpost moving exemplifies how the Biden team isn't pushing nearly hard enough on school reopening.

The issue has gone from being something of a red vs. blue battle line last year to a cross-partisan area of consensus. In intellectual and moral terms, the debate over reopening schools has been won, but political progress has been slow, mainly because powerful teachers unions are standing in the way.

If Biden wanted to add a touch of unity to his governing agenda, he'd call out the unions for being an obstacle to educational and economic progress at a challenging time for the country.

The science is clear enough, if that matters.

Experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention wrote in the Journal of the American Medical Association, "There has been little evidence that schools have contributed meaningfully to increased community transmission."

This makes the costs of school closures and remote learning all the harder to bear.

A McKinsey estimate from June concluded that students

may have lost three months to a year of learning, depending on the exact circumstances. Then, there are the social costs for children, among them higher rates of depression and anxiety.

School closures have pulled women out of the labor force to bear the brunt of all the juggling that has to go on at home.

Nonetheless, teacher unions have fought reopening and helped stymie reopening in cities and blue states. Most schools in California have been remote. Elementary schools reopened in New York, but not middle schools or high schools.

School districts in the Washington, D.C., region are floating a parodic solution to reopening -- have kids return to the classroom so they can gather to watch remote teachers on computer screens.

Somehow private schools have largely managed to stay open, in part, because if they don't, no one gets paid.

In contrast, public school teachers are in a position to make demands even to consider coming back and doing their jobs.

After intense lobbying by the unions, most states have put teachers near the front of the line for vaccines (even though Biden's CDC director has said teacher vaccination isn't necessary for reopening).

As David Zweig points out in a piece at Wired, many union officials still insist that even vaccination won't guarantee a return to the classroom. This would be like surgeons demanding to be vaccinated, then not showing up for operations anyway.

The Biden team contends that more spending is necessary for reopening. Biden is proposing another \$130 billion in education funding in his COVID-19 bill, but as Dan Lips of the Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity notes, states still have tens of billions in unspent funds from last year's relief packages.

No, this is a question of political will. Biden's goal should be to exert every ounce of influence that he has to get kids back in the classroom -- for their own good and that of the country's parents.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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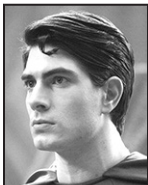


# ENTERTAINMENT

## Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

**Q:** Who is the actor who plays the racist cop on "The Rookie"? My husband said he once played Superman, but I told him that actor is on another show we watch called "The Witcher." Is it the same person? -- *Y.G.*



B. Routh

**A:** You're both right! There have been several incarnations of DC Comics' Superman since the Christopher Reeve era, the most recent having starred Henry Cavill in 2013's "Man of Steel," followed by "Batman v Superman" and "Justice League." Cavill, sporting long white hair, is the actor who plays the monster hunter in the hit fantasy series "The Witcher" on Netflix. "The Rookie's" Brandon Routh was cast as Clark Kent/Superman in the 2006 film "Superman Returns," with Kevin Spacey, but it didn't deliver at the box office, so he faded into obscurity for a while. Fortunately, the DC Universe must like him because he went on to play either Superman or

The Atom in several CW series like "The Flash" and "Arrow."

In December, Routh, now 41, was cast on the third season of the ABC drama "The Rookie" as an officer with polarizing views and actions. The role is recurring, but it gives him a chance to play against type, the opposite of a superhero.

\*\*\*

**Q:** Are Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively still married? I never read anything about them anymore. -- *E.E.*

**A:** Hopefully, it's a good thing that their lives aren't the subject of gossip magazines anymore. Yes, they're still married and appear to be happily so. They have three children together, and recently posted photos on social media of Blake sledding and Ryan coloring Blake's hair during the pandemic. I'm willing to bet they make it to their 10th wedding anniversary next year.

\*\*\*

**Q:** My sister and I both love "The Rifleman" show on ME-TV. How many shots does Luke McCain shoot off in the beginning of the show? Can you also tell us about Mark (Luke's son), his real name and if he's gone on to other shows? -- *M&E of Spokane*

**A:** "The Rifleman" is a classic Western that ran for five seasons from 1958 to 1963. It starred Chuck Connors as a rancher and Johnny Crawford as his young son, Mark. The number of shots that Connors fires during the opening credits appears to my ears to be 13.

Crawford is still acting, but not so much these days. He's about to turn 75, and his most recent credit is another Western, a 2019 movie titled "Bill Tilghman and the Outlaws" (aka "The Marshal"), which can be rented through Amazon Prime.

Crawford was one of the original Musketeers with the Walt Disney Company before he appeared on "The Rifleman." He subsequently guest-starred on such notable series as "Hawaii Five-O," "Little House on the Prairie" and "Murder, She Wrote." He and his on-screen father Connors remained close friends, and Crawford delivered the eulogy when Connors passed away in 1992.

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

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## Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

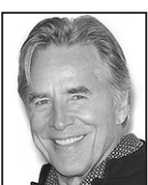
**HOLLYWOOD --** Tom Hanks' film "News of the World," which cost \$38 million to make, was released in theaters Christmas Day and grossed \$9.7 million. That was good, considering it was available for Netflix subscribers as well. His next release, the science-fiction film "Bios," with Skeet Ulrich, is set for theaters Aug. 13 without a streaming release, so far.

Last January, Hanks began filming "Elvis" in Australia for "Moulin Rouge" director Baz Luhrmann. He'll play Presley's manager, Colonel Tom Parker, with Austin Butler as Elvis. In March, he and wife Rita Wilson tested positive for COVID-19 and the film was shut down. In September, they resumed and completed the film (scheduled for a Nov. 5 release to theaters and HBO Max).

Hanks is now playing Geppetto in the Disney+ live action remake of its 1940 animated classic, "Pinocchio." Oscar-winner Roberto Benigni (for 1997's "Life Is Beautiful") remade "Pinoc-

chio" in 2002 for \$45 million, but it grossed only \$41 million worldwide. This time it's being directed by Robert Zemeckis, of "Romancing the Stone," "Back to the Future," "Forrest Gump," "Cast Away" and "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" fame. In addition to Hanks, he's cast Luke Evans (Gaston in "Beauty and the Beast") as The Coachman. Evans is fresh off of Hulu's "Nine Perfect Strangers," with Melissa McCarthy and Nicole Kidman.

\*\*\*



D. Johnson

At the dawn of the 1970s, I met a young actor who was co-starring with Sal Mineo in a Los Angeles stage production of "Fortune and Men's Eyes." It was a prison drama in which the young actor was raped every night by Mineo's character. It was very controversial for its time. I got to know the actor, and we did several photo sessions together.

Flash-forward to 1985,

when that young actor turned up on television as the star of "Miami Vice." His name was Don Johnson. When the show ended five years later, he drifted through films and TV guest-star roles until he landed the hit series "Nash Bridges," co-starring Cheech Marin, which ran from 1996-2001. In 2010, Johnson sued the producers of the police drama for \$23 million because they allegedly conveniently forgot to give him his share of the foreign residuals he was contracted to receive. The case was finally settled in 2013, and he received \$19 million. So when his 2015 series "Blood & Oil" ended after only 10 episodes, he wasn't devastated.

Johnson is currently co-starring with "SNL" alum Kenan Thompson in his new NBC series "Kenan." Johnson replaced Andy Garcia (who was in the pilot) playing Kenan's father-in-law, who offers to help raise his granddaughter. A \$19 million settlement for foreign residuals? Who says crime doesn't pay!

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## Couch Theater

By Amy Anderson

**The No-Cry Challenge:** Tears are shed for many a reason. Unbridled joy. A particularly raucous round of laughter. Heartbreak. The ache of loss. And humans are a curious lot. There are times when we'll go into absolute denial to avoid tears, but other times we rush right in. Case in point: tearjerker. Some movies come at you right from the start (the entire first 10 minutes of "Up") and some wait for the end to twist the knife (when Miguel sings with his great-grandmother "Coco").

Either way, here are a collection of tearjerker moments in film for when you just need a little catharsis. Get a box of tissues and (potential spoilers ahead) have yourself a good cry.

"My Girl" -- The death of a child is no easy thing, but in this story of a girl named Vada Sultenfuss, living with

her single dad in a funeral home, it's heartbreaking. If you can get through the scene where Vada loses it at Thomas J's funeral because he doesn't have his glasses, I am not sure you are human.

"Inside Out" -- A quintet of emotions interact inside the mind of 11-year-old Riley in this Pixar classic. But it's Riley's forgotten imaginary friend Bing Bong who steals the heart in a loving act of sacrifice that will have you weeping buckets of candy tears.

"Steel Magnolias" -- In this touching story about a group of strong Southern women, there is more than one poignant moment, but for millions of ugly criers, it's the scene where M'Lynn delivers her monologue in the graveyard, bemoaning daughter Shelby's lifelong ill health.

"Selena" -- The Tejano superstar captured the hearts

of a nation. Her tragic story is told with Jennifer Lopez in the lead role, and when she doesn't catch the white rose thrown to her on stage at the end, you'll never hear "Dreaming of You" the same way.

"Marley & Me" (and for that matter "A Dog's Purpose" and "A Dog's Journey") -- Whenever an animal is involved, you're already in a position of weakness, but these films take it to the next level. When Marley is put down, it's gut-wrenching.

"Life Is Beautiful" -- A Jewish-Italian writer and his son make a game of being imprisoned in a concentration camp during the Holocaust.

"Love, Simon" -- When Simon comes out to his mother, finding acceptance.

"Green Mile" -- The final execution scene will tear you to pieces.

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## Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

\* In 2008, two sisters from Virginia sold their Illinois-shaped corn flake on eBay for \$1,350.

\* One of the first diet books, "The Art of Living Long" by Luigi Comaro, came out in 1558 ... and is still in print.

\* In the movie "Psycho's" iconic shower scene, Alfred Hitchcock achieved the sound of stabbings by knifing through a casaba melon. He even had his crew audition multiple varieties of melon to get the perfect tone.

\* Folks who enjoy collecting ties are known as grabatologists.

\* The mostly unknown second and third verses of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" reveal the song was originally written as a feminist anthem about a woman wanting to go see a baseball game rather than go on a date to a show.

\* Cinderella's shoes were made of fur, not glass, in the tale's original version.

\* Overdo it on the garlic or onions and need to freshen your breath? Try roasted coffee beans instead of gum or mints. Israeli scientists have found that coffee can inhibit the bacteria that leads to bad breath, but if you prefer drinking it to chewing, you'll do best to take it black.

\* German chocolate cake was named for an American baker, Samuel German.

\* "Scurryfungie" is an old English word meaning to rush around cleaning when you see company is on their way over.

\* In the Middle Ages, the "shrew's fiddle" or "neck violin" was used to punish those who were caught bickering by linking them face-to-face, forcing them to talk to each other. They weren't released until their disagreement was resolved.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "I had a new vision in front of me, and I always feel that if I can see it and believe it, then I can achieve it." -- Arnold Schwarzenegger

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W T K L U O T E T V G  
T M O S N N I X E B V  
O O O E G V H N O C N E  
H O N V H B O H  
E V H E E L S A I S V L  
O N H E D V L S S B T V  
N V O L E G V H J J I N S  
O I N E T V W V L  
E I S L E R E B E  
E G V H O H N V N O L  
E T R O V I S I A V E V  
S A T A V E R A V E V  
Solution time: 24 mins.  
Answers  
— promCross King —

## Trivia Test

1. GAMES: Which chess piece can only move diagonally?
2. U.S. STATES: What is the capital of Nevada?
3. LANGUAGE: What is a lexicon?
4. HISTORY: What was the first sport played on the moon?
5. LITERATURE: In his will, what gift did Albus Dumbledore give to Ron Weasley in the Harry Potter book series?
6. MOVIES: What was the first Disney song to win an Academy Award for best original movie song?
7. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Bermuda?
8. INVENTIONS: Who first invented a successful vaccine for rabies?
9. ASTRONOMY: Which

two planets in our solar system do not have moons?

10. MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MDCCCXII?

- Answers
1. The bishop
  2. Carson City
  3. A dictionary
  4. Golf
  5. A deluminator, which takes away or restores light sources
  6. "When You Wish Upon a Star"
  7. Hamilton
  8. Louis Pasteur
  9. Venus and Mercury
  10. 1812

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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 June honoree
- 4 Say it's so
- 8 Pretzel topper
- 12 Past
- 13 Travel permit
- 14 Done with
- 15 Brock of baseball
- 16 Alaskan city
- 18 Heron's kin
- 20 Army address
- 21 Dalai —
- 24 Slow, in music
- 28 Right to vote
- 32 Cash advance
- 33 201, in old Rome
- 34 Heat to near boiling
- 36 GOP org.
- 37 Priestly vestments
- 39 Cheap ride section
- 41 "Yum!"
- 43 Novelist
- 44 Hunter
- 46 Cowboy's workplace
- 50 Spur on
- 55 Tic-tac-toe win
- 56 Nerd's kin
- 57 Hostels
- 58 Hooting bird
- 59 Big wind

**DOWN**

- 1 Valley
- 2 Awestruck
- 3 Gloomy
- 4 Online images
- 5 Sportscaster
- 6 Computer key
- 7 Stadium cheers
- 8 Reddish-brown horse
- 9 "Selma"
- 10 Table support
- 11 Thrice, in Rome
- 17 Texas tea
- 19 Sprite
- 22 PC alternatives
- 23 Marble type
- 25 Asta's feeder
- 26 Tart flavor
- 27 As soon as
- 28 "Shoo!"
- 29 Bruins' sch. frame
- 30 Little lies
- 31 Mountain ht.
- 35 Most loved
- 38 Painter's motion
- 40 Genetic letters
- 42 Thee
- 45 Telly watcher
- 47 Cranny
- 48 Batman's hood
- 49 Actress
- 50 Early bird?
- 51 PBS funder
- 52 Cartoon
- 53 Yucatan year
- 54 Wildebeest

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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# HOME IMPROVEMENT

## 5 ways to add fun and function to your garage

(BPT) - Now is the perfect time to create more living space in your home. Whether you need a place to take a break from daily stressors, get some work done or host friends and family, look no further than your own garage.

For many, the garage is simply a place to park the car, store tools and bikes, and hide old toys or off-season items that have no other place to go. But with a few easy upgrades, you can turn the garage into a productive, fun-filled place. Here are five tips to get you started.

### 1) Clean and organize

The first step is to look at the current state of your garage. To make the best of your space, you'll need to start with a blank canvas. Do a deep clean, take stock of your tools and consider new ways to store and organize them. Building custom shelves to get your equipment up off the floor will not only give you a new project to take on, but it will help clear the way for a place where you can be productive and get jobs done. One key item to have in your upgraded garage shop is a Portable Electric Air Compressor, which can be used for power nailers, Sanders, paint spray guns and much more - plus, at less powerful settings, it can be used to quickly blow away dust and debris.

### 2) Heat it up

Creating a year-round garage to enjoy will mean you'll have to take the extra step to ensure the walls and ceilings are insulated correctly. For extra warmth, use a workshop heater. Heaters can easily warm up a two- or three-car garage, allowing you to work and



Heaters can easily warm up a two- or three-car garage, allowing you to work and play comfortably in your space no matter the outside temperature.

play comfortably in your space no matter the outside temperature.

### 3) Let in the light

Switching up the lighting is an easy and inexpensive way to update your garage. Most garages have just one or two light bulbs hanging from the ceiling, but you'll want more than that for your new, useful space. Try an industrial-style light fixture or customizable, sleek track lighting to make the room feel more inviting to friends for casual hang-outs. Plus, it'll be easier to see when you're working on projects.

### 4) Bring on the entertainment

To get the most out of your new garage, make sure it is all about entertainment. Think about how you'll be using the space. The garage is a great place to hang a TV for football Sundays and video games. Adding extra speakers can provide a

complete experience, whether it's watching the game or listening to music while you work on your latest project. If you plan to host regular game nights, fill the room with a poker or ping-pong table that can be easily folded up when not in use.

### 5) Get comfortable

One of the most important parts of your new garage space is seating. Whether you go with recliners, a sofa, stools or a combination of all three, look for furniture that fits your space. Find pieces that let you get comfortable, can stand being outdoors and are versatile. Leather is a classic material plus it's easy to clean and maintain. For another way to add comfort - and more entertainment possibilities - set up a side bar with a refrigerator to keep cool drinks and snacks at hand.

With these ideas as your playbook, you're ready to achieve garage greatness.



If a renovation is done correctly, you may never need to repeat the process. This makes open and honest communication with your home renovation team essential.

## Tips for a successful home renovation

(StatePoint) Thinking of remodeling your home? From safety and security to product and contractor selection, there are many factors to consider.

Follow these eight remodeling tips to help minimize hassles during a renovation:

1. Create a budget. Create a project budget and set a spending limit. Whether you plan to utilize savings, home equity loan, line of credit or free up funds through refinancing, now is the time to identify how you will finance the project, and how much you want to spend.

2. Prepare the house. Before work starts, clear all spaces where professionals will be working, as well as walkways they will use to access these areas. Remove valuables and breakables to avoid damage and cover furniture in areas where paint or dust could harm upholstery. Keep other considerations in mind. For example, if you're renovating the kitchen, you may need to create a temporary food prep area.

3. Work with reputable professionals. When

selecting a contractor, be sure they have references, certification and an understanding of the project. Working with reputable professionals makes all the difference in the quality of the work and the materials used to complete the project.

4. Schedule wisely. Choose a timeframe for your home renovation that best fits your busy schedule. Keep in mind that unforeseen circumstances can sometimes cause delays. Build this into the timeline so you're not taken by surprise.

5. Address safety. Talk to your contractor about what COVID-19 measures they practice to help keep customers and employees safe. Find out whether they're following CDC guidelines for businesses, including always wearing a mask, social distancing whenever possible and frequent hand washing. Also, ask if they offer virtual consultations that allow you to start the process contact-free.

6. Add or update your security system. With professionals frequently coming in and out of your home, a

home renovation may be a good time to add or update your security system with reprogrammable smart locks.

7. Communicate openly and effectively. If a renovation is done correctly, you may never need to repeat the process. This makes open and honest communication with your home renovation team essential. Be sure to share your vision and to ask questions as they arise. At the same time, expect the professionals working with you to communicate regularly and address all your concerns.

8. Get a return on your investment. Prioritize projects that will potentially raise the resale value of your home. According to FortuneBuilders, the top 10 greatest returns on investment for home renovations include bathroom and kitchen remodels, landscaping, replacing entry doors and replacing windows. It also helps to select products that come with transferrable warranties. This will give your property a tangible leg-up on the market when it's time to sell.

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# HOME IMPROVEMENT

## How to add shade to a deck or patio

Homeowners eagerly await the arrival of the warm weather so they can cast off the remnants of cabin fever and bask in the sunshine. However, as summer nears its dog days, the same sun homeowners once coveted can contribute to uncomfortable conditions in outdoor entertaining spaces.

Meteorologists at WHAS11 in Kentucky took to their neighborhoods in July 2020 to test just how hot surfaces can get in the sun during peak daytime temperatures. Concrete sitting in the sun almost all day reached a temperature of 134.7 F, while the same concrete in the shade clocked in at just under 80 F. When air temperatures are around 90 F, unshaded concrete and asphalt can be 125 F and 140 F, respectively. While wood decking may not be as hot as asphalt and concrete, it still can get steamy underfoot.

Homeowners who want to be able to enjoy their outdoor spaces in an array of temperatures can think about investing in shade solutions. Sun-blocking ideas like awnings, shade trees and large umbrellas can help people enjoy their yards all day long.

- **Canopy:** A patio canopy is typically a free-standing unit that can be installed over a patio or a deck. Some people prefer to bolt it down so it will not be knocked over in windy conditions. The fabric on the canopy can be removed during the off-season, helping to improve

its longevity.

- **Awning:** Awnings may be stationary or retractable. Many are installed directly onto a home and can cast shade on specific areas of outdoor entertaining spaces.

- **Shade sail:** Similar to an awning but a bit less structurally rigid, shade sails are large pieces of triangular fabric installed over areas of a patio, pool or landscape, according to The Family Handyman. Shade sails are light and airy and can be customized.

- **Trees:** A natural way to increase shade in a yard is to plant more shade trees. If sun glare is an issue all year long, and it's not just the heat of the sun that is troublesome, think about planting evergreen trees. Deciduous cousins will drop their leaves in fall and only be effective during the warm weather.

- **Patio umbrellas:** Many umbrellas start at around \$25. Umbrellas can be paired with patio tables, while stationary cantilever umbrellas sit out of the way on their own heavy-duty stands. A cantilever umbrella tends to provide more shade than patio table umbrellas.

- **Curtains:** Homeowners can block sunlight outdoors the way they do inside, offers MSN. Hang curtains from the sides of canopies or between posts on a deck to provide shade and cozy spaces.

Shade is in high demand when the sun is hot. Options abound for making outdoor areas more comfortable.

## Creating a naturally healthy home

(BPT) - The pandemic has changed the way many of us think and feel about home. More than ever, it has become a place of refuge, safety and comfort in an uncertain world. The need for our dwellings to be sources of both physical and emotional well-being has never been stronger. Architects and designers looking to maximize the unique and personal qualities of a residence - the subtle factors that turn it from a house into a home - have long recognized that specifying wood offers a natural means of achieving that goal. Now COVID-19 is making that strategy even more attractive to savvy homeowners.

"We hear it from professionals and consumers alike: Today, families want an especially cocooning home environment," says Linda Jovanovich, of the American Hardwood Information Center. "Wood is an inherently warm and characterful material that engenders feelings of reliability and familiarity in us. But along with that tried-and-true aspect, hardwood also offers a wide range of different looks and design possibilities, so there's always an element of uniqueness and personalization whenever it's used."

The kitchen is often called "the heart of the home" - a gathering place that provides sustenance through food and the companionship of friends and family - making it an ideal space in which to



The kitchen is often called "the heart of the home" - a gathering place that provides sustenance through food and the companionship of friends and family - making it an ideal space in which to put wood's authentic natural powers to work.

put wood's authentic natural powers to work. Replacing tired old cabinets with stylish hardwood ones is a good starting point, as shown in the makeover of a 1920s Bungalow house kitchen where a classic American hardwood - quarter-sawn white oak - is used for all the new millwork and flooring. The floorboards are lightly white-washed to create the look of bare wood; the base cabinets get a slightly darker cerused finish to distinguish them from the rest of the woodwork. The wall cabinets are painted white to match the kitchen's shiplap ceiling.

"It's peaceful rather than exciting," notes the homeowner. "And that's exactly what we wanted."

Without doubt, a good part of wood's appeal is due to the fact that, like us, each piece of timber is unique - its color, texture and grain are as individual as a human personality, so we keep discovering new aspects of its beauty and versatility to delight in.

"But there are other good reasons why being surrounded with hardwood makes us feel good," Jovanovich points out. "It is exactly the kind of material that today's environmentally conscious

consumer demands: One that's renewable, sustainable, plentiful, durable and easy to work with - all of which makes it an excellent return on investment, too."

And that feeling of well-being is not just in our minds or pocketbooks: Wood is healthy, it doesn't harbor dust and other allergens, and it gives off almost no VOCs (volatile organic compounds) in its natural state. And what could be more reassuring than that?

Visit [www.hardwoodinfo.com](http://www.hardwoodinfo.com) for more about the uses and benefits of American hardwoods.

## Improve indoor air quality

(StatePoint) With more of life centered at home due to cool weather and social distancing, it's time to ensure the space where your family spends the majority of its time is healthy and safe.

What many people don't know is that concentrations of air pollutants can typically be up to five times higher inside one's home than out, and sometimes far more, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. However, there are many simple actions you can take to breathe better in your home:

- **Monitor carbon monoxide:** This potentially deadly gas can be emitted by a faulty gas-burning home appliance. Monitor for carbon monoxide using detectors placed in major areas of the home, especially the bedrooms.

- **Keep airborne dust to a minimum:** Dust carries a variety of contaminants, including bacteria and allergens. Mop and dust often using a wet mop and dust cloth. Vacuum often as well using a vacuum with a HEPA filter, which traps small particles.

- **Eliminate moisture from the air:** Moisture promotes mold, which can cause serious health problems when left unabated. Reduce moisture by eliminating sources of water leaks, installing exhaust fans in kitchens, using air conditioning, and positioning dehumidifiers in high-moisture rooms such as bathrooms, laundry rooms and basements.

- **Reduce airborne particles:** Install an air purifier to trap irritating particles, including mold, pollen and pet dander, which are particularly bad for people with respiratory problems like asthma. Brush pets often - outdoors if possible - and give pets regular baths.

- **Decrease dirty air:** Replace HVAC filters regularly. While the optimal frequency that you perform this task depends on the type of filter, the number of pets at home and other factors, a good reference point is the manufacturer's guidelines.

When it comes to creating a healthy home sanctuary, taking steps to manage the most common indoor air pollutants should be a top priority.

## What to know before installing built-ins

After purchasing a new home, buyers often want to put their own fingerprint on the property. Homeowners anticipate the day when their homes are transformed into spaces that reflect their style and not the preferences of previous owners.

When deciding how to renovate interior spaces, homeowners will make some relatively temporary changes, but they also may consider some permanent adjustments. Built-ins fall into the category of permanent adjustments, and while realty professionals note that built-ins tend to provide a good return on investment, homeowners can learn more about built-ins before deciding if they want to install them in their homes.

### What are built-ins?

Realtor.com defines built-ins as any feature that is built into the interior of a home. The term "built-ins" may immediately conjure up images of bookshelves, but built-ins also include benches and entertainment centers.

### Why install built-ins?

Built-ins can be both utilitarian and aesthetically appealing. Built-ins are functional because they provide storage space that homeowners may otherwise find hard to create. Built-ins are embedded in walls that may otherwise be useful only to

hang artwork. This can provide much-needed storage space in homes with limited square footage. Professionally installed built-ins also can transform rooms, making them appear more organized. Customized built-ins also can give homes their own unique character, though it's important to note that prospective buyers may or may not appreciate that uniqueness.

### Are there disadvantages to built-ins?

The permanence of built-ins may not appeal to some buyers. If buyers don't like built-ins at all or are not fond of the look of customized built-ins, that may be enough to convince them to walk away from a property. However, Realtor.com notes that functional built-ins, like built-in bench seats with storage capacity, appeal to modern buyers and their preference for as much storage space as possible.



Permanent built-ins also can be costly. The home remodeling resource Fixr.com notes that built-in entertainment center installations can cost between \$8,000 and \$9,500. Built-in seating and bookshelves are not as costly, but such projects still cost more than simply buying premade furniture.

Some buyers also may see built-ins as limiting what they

can do with a space. That can be a major disadvantage as more professionals work from home and seek multi-functional spaces in their homes.

Built-ins can dramatically change the look of a room and provide some much-needed storage space. But it's imperative that homeowners give ample thought to built-ins before deciding to install them in their homes.

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# THE BACK PAGE

## POLICE BLOTTER

### DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Michael A. Holley, 37, of Millington, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Fifth Avenue and 12th Street at 8:18 p.m. Feb. 16. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

### WARRANT ARREST

Mauricio A. Carreon, 19, of Spring Valley, was arrested at 1:15 p.m. Feb. 17 on a valid LaSalle County failure to appear arrest warrant for driving while license suspended. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

### WARRANT ARREST

Devon C. Hall, 23, of 1305 Guiles Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 18 on a valid LaSalle County failure to appear arrest warrant for driving while license suspended. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

### DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Justina N. Schwartz, 30, of 1109 Sixth St., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at 19th Street and Lincoln Avenue at 8:32 p.m. Feb. 18. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

### DUI

David C. Kern, 70, of 1112 Main St., Mendota, was charged with driving under the influence after police officers conducted a welfare check on a person in a vehicle at Illinois Avenue and Springfield Street at 6:46 p.m. Feb. 20. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

## MPD reminder: Secure property

MENDOTA – Help prevent yourself from being the victim of a burglary or theft. The Mendota Police Department would like to remind all citizens to secure their property. Always lock your vehicle when it's parked outside. Lock the doors to your home, garage and sheds even while you are home. Don't let yourself become a victim by being an easy target.

## IVCC News Briefs

### Enrollment info sessions scheduled

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Admissions Office is hosting virtual "Admissions Enrollment Information Sessions" at 5 p.m. every first Tuesday of the month. The next session will be March 2.

Admissions representatives will walk prospects through the enrollment process and discuss the ways to make the most out of your educational experience.

Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Go to [www.ivcc.edu/visit](http://www.ivcc.edu/visit) to register for your preferred date.

### Accounting & business showcase set

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Admissions Office will host an Accounting and Business Academic Showcase at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 3 via Zoom.

Current and prospective students and their parents are encouraged to attend sessions with instructors from IVCC's accounting and business programs to learn about different academic and career paths students can take by studying at IVCC, including everything from basic accounting certificates to business management degrees.

Director of Admissions, Records and Transfer Services Quintin Overocker said, "IVCC's accounting and business programs can lead to a job right after graduation or university transfer."

"3+1 agreements with some universities mean students can save even more on costs of commuting, housing and lower tuition."

Learn more and register at [www.ivcc.edu/visit](http://www.ivcc.edu/visit).

### Spanish 'Learn & Connect' session set

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College hosts "Learn and Connect," an informational session for Spanish speakers at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 4 via Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/8152240361>.

Assistant Director of Admissions Aseret Loveland, Director of Adult Education Sara Escatel, Financial Aid and Veterans Benefits Advisor Isamar Taylor and Transition and Completion Specialist Crystal Credi will facilitate the event.

Participants will learn more about IVCC and how to get started on their educational journey. For information, call Loveland at (815) 224-0446 or [aseret\\_loveland@ivcc.edu](mailto:aseret_loveland@ivcc.edu).

### 3 new virtual online classes offered

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Continuing Education Center offers three new virtual online live professional development classes for nurses, counselors, social workers and teachers. The classes are:

- Understanding and Working with Adverse Childhood Experiences (CPD-3271-102), 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Feb. 26.
- Burnout, Compassion Fatigue and Vicarious Traumatization: The Cost of Empathy during COVID (CPD-3272-103), 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, March 11.
- Clinical Strategies for Helping Parents Emotionally Attune to Their Children (CPD-3273-104), 10 a.m. to noon Friday, April 16.

Participation requires internet access and an email address. For course descriptions, learning objectives and online registration, visit [www.ivcc.edu/continuingandprofessionaleducation](http://www.ivcc.edu/continuingandprofessionaleducation). Register by phone at (815) 224-0447.

### Ag & cannabis showcase planned

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Admissions Office will host an Agriculture and Cannabis Academic Showcase at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 9 via Zoom.

Current and prospective students and their parents are encouraged to attend sessions with agriculture program co-coordinators. They'll discuss how students learn in the classroom, at the IVCC farm and how that experience translates into careers.

Assistant Director of Admissions, Records and Transfer Services Aseret Loveland said, "Agriculture and cannabis study leads to a wide range of career options beyond farming."

Learn more and register at [www.ivcc.edu/admissions/academicshowcase.php](http://www.ivcc.edu/admissions/academicshowcase.php).

## Prohibited Parking

MENDOTA – The City of Mendota reminds citizens that Chapter 41.49 of the Mendota Municipal Code in regard to Prohibited Parking reads as follows:

- Parking is prohibited along both sides of First Avenue for the entire length of the avenue.
- Parking is prohibited on the east side of Sixth Avenue from Second Street to Fifth Street.
- Parking is prohibited on the east side of Main Street from Sixth Street to Washington Street.
- Parking is prohibited on the south side of Washington Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to Iowa Street.
- Parking is prohibited on both sides (north and south) of Washington Street from Iowa Street to U.S. Route 251.



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## SENIOR HOMESTEAD & OWNER OCCUPIED EXEMPTIONS

### NEW APPLICANTS

This Notice is for persons filing for the Homestead Exemption for the first time. All senior citizens who are or will be 65 years old during 2021 and who own and reside in their own home, are eligible for the \$5,000 Senior Homestead Exemption on the 2022 real estate tax bill. A copy of the deed and the owner's driver's license (and any other persons on the deed driver's license(s)) are needed for the application. The signature on this form must be notarized.

### EXISTING SENIOR HOMESTEADS

Renewal forms for existing Homesteads were mailed out in early February 2021. All recipients should read the form, answer all questions completely and return them to the Township Assessor's Office. (See address below.) If needed, one of our staff members can help you fill out the form.

### ASSESSMENT FREEZE

Renewal forms for the Assessment Freeze Exemption are included in the mailing with the regular Senior Homestead Exemption. Your total gross household income must be **\$65,000 or less**. This exemption freezes your assessed valuation, **not** your taxes. Forms must be filled out, signed, and returned to the respective township offices. Staff members can assist you with all of this. If your income is between \$55,000 & \$65,000 or shows a loss, we will need a copy of your 2020 form 1040 and the loss schedule.

### NEW HOMEOWNERS

If you bought a new home, this past year and were living in it by January 1, 2021, you will need to fill out an owner occupied exemption form with your local assessor. Your signature on this form must be notarized.

### VETERANS

Exemptions for Veterans were created by House Bill 664 – one for disabled veterans and one for returning servicemen. Forms are available at our office.

### DISABLED PERSONS

An exemption created by House Bill 664 allows a \$2,000 exemption for a Class II disabled person. Forms are available at our office. The Mendota Township Assessor's Office is located at the Mendota Township Offices at 602 S. Main St. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 9am-12pm & 1:30pm to 3 pm or by appointment. Completed forms may be mailed to Mendota Township Assessor, PO Box 465, Mendota, IL 61342. Staff members can make home visits for homebound individuals. Bilingual assistance is available by appointment. If you have any questions, call the office at 815-539-3201.

### ALL NEW APPLICANTS

All New Exemption Applications must be Notarized. There are (2) Notaries in the Mendota Township Assessor's Office.

### OWNER-OCCUPIED EXEMPTION

New Home Owners have to file an Owner-Occupied Exemption Form to get this Exemption. These forms are available at the Mendota Township Assessor's Office. This form has to be Notarized.

### CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

If the tax bill is to be mailed to a different address, a Change of Address Form must be filled out. These are available at the Mendota Township Assessor's Office. This form must be Notarized.

**Patricia Rich, CIAO**  
**Mendota Township Assessor**



# SPORTS

## Frosh boys post pair of victories

MENDOTA—Mendota's freshman boys' basketball team squeaked past Rock Falls, 30-29, on Feb. 17 at the MHS gym.

The Trojans led throughout the first half, taking a 17-13 lead to intermission. Rock Falls clawed back to knot the score at 22-all after three periods, but Mendota was one point better than the Rockets in the fourth to claim the victory.

Ryan Stevenson paced Mendota scorers with 12 points, including seven in the crucial fourth quarter. Kaleb Kleckner and Logan Dewey chipped in with five points apiece.

\*\*\*

The Trojans put another mark in the win column with a 26-21 triumph over Genoa-Kingston on Feb. 20 at the MHS gym.

Mendota trailed 10-6 after the opening stanza, but came back to take a 19-18 halftime lead. The Trojans failed to score in the third period and G-K put three points on the board to grab a 21-19 advantage, but Mendota held the visitors scoreless in the fourth frame and scored seven points of its own to pull out the win.

Stevenson topped the scoring column with eight points and Dewey contributed five markers.

## Trojans fall short in four BNC contests

Genoa-Kingston took command early in the game and cruised to a 66-32 win over the Mendota varsity boys' basketball team on Feb. 16 at the MHS gym.

The Cogs' offense was hot from the outset as they raced out to a 19-5 lead after the first session. G-K continued its onslaught in the second period and carried a 37-14 cushion to the locker room.

Krew Bond's eight points paced the Trojans. Rafa Romero was next with seven markers and Izaiah Nanez provided six tallies.

\*\*\*

Rock Falls and Mendota played a tight game through three quarters before the Rockets pulled away in the fourth to post a 48-36 triumph over the Trojans on Feb. 17 at the MHS gym.

Both teams had trouble putting the ball in the basket in the first quarter as it ended in the first quarter as it ended 4-3. The scoring picked up slightly in the second period and the Rockets owned a 14-9 halftime advantage. Each team put 17 points in the board in the third frame, then Rock Falls opened up a double-digit lead in the fourth.

Bond and Romero contributed 10 and nine points, respectively, for Mendota, while Emilio Perez added seven markers.

\*\*\*

Winnebago shot the lights out from start to finish



Mendota's Jaelyn Fitzgerald has inside position on Iaina Intravaia of Winnebago as she goes in for a layup on Feb. 19 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

and defeated the Trojans, 85-33, on Feb. 19 at Winnebago.

The Indians blitzed Mendota with a 31-point first quarter behind the strength of four three-pointers and led 31-15 after one. The count was 50-28 at the half, and then the Trojans scored just five second-half points compared to 35 for Winnebago.

Bond topped the Trojan scoring chart with nine points, while Trent Stamberger added six tallies.

Winnebago ended the contest with 10 three-point field goals.

GENOA-K. 66, MENDOTA 32				
Genoa-Kingston (66)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
B. Engel	1	0-1	0	3
Golembiewski	7	1-2	0	15
Reams	2	0-0	0	4
Jo. Oates	2	0-0	3	5
Toevr	1	0-0	0	3
C. Engel	0	0-2	0	0
Ja. Oates	1	0-0	1	2
Atterberry	1	0-0	0	2
Nesler	5	1-1	0	11
Schwichtenberg	6	1-1	1	15
Dyner	1	0-0	0	3
Lechelt	1	0-0	1	3
Totals	28	3-7	6	66

Mendota (32)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Bond	3	2-2	2	8
Romero	3	0-0	2	7
Perez	1	0-0	0	2
Landgraf	1	0-0	0	2
Artega	0	0-0	3	0
Stamberger	1	0-0	0	2
Nanez	2	1-1	0	6
Strouss	0	0-0	1	0
Sandoval	1	0-0	0	2
Figueroa	1	0-0	0	3
Totals	13	3-3	8	32

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Genoa-K.	19	37	55	66
Mendota	5	14	22	32
Three-point goals: Mendota - Romero 1, Nanez 1, Figueroa 1; Genoa-Kingston - B. Engel 1, Jo. Oates 1, Toevr 1, Schwichtenberg 2, Dyner 1, Lechelt 1				

\*\*\*

Mendota finally scored some points, but Dixon scored more in a 76-49 victory over the Trojans on Feb. 22 at Dixon.

The first half wasn't so good for the Trojans as they trailed 26-3 after the first period and 38-15 at the half. Mendota put 23 points on the board in the third frame as it hit four three-pointers in the quarter, including three trifectas from Romero.

Romero finished with 16 points to pace the Trojans (1-7), while Perez contributed 12 tallies.

WINNEBAGO 85, MENDOTA 33				
Mendota (33)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Bond	3	3-6	1	9
Romero	1	1-3	1	3
Perez	2	1-2	2	5
Landgraf	1	0-0	1	2
Artega	2	0-0	3	4
Stamberger	3	0-0	0	6
Strouss	1	0-0	0	2
Guzman	1	0-0	0	2
Sandoval	0	0-0	1	0
Totals	14	5-11	9	33

Winnebago (85)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Firch	4	6-6	2	15
Garrigan	1	0-0	1	2
Maurchie	4	1-1	2	9
Moraska	4	0-0	1	10
Ackerman	10	2-2	1	26
Bucey	0	0-0	1	0
Buhl	3	0-0	0	8
Karau	1	0-0	1	2
Horton	1	0-0	0	2
Asche	1	0-0	2	2
Shumate	1	0-0	0	3
Lee	1	0-0	0	2
Speltz	2	0-0	1	4
Cunningham	0	0-0	1	0
Totals	33	9-9	13	85

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	15	28	29	33
Winnebago	31	50	76	85
Three-point goals: Winnebago - Firch 1, Moraska 2, Ackerman 4, Buhl 2, Shumate 1				

ROCK FALLS 48, MENDOTA 36				
Rock Falls (48)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Chappell	1	3-3	0	5
McGlowen	1	0-0	1	2
Mulnix	1	0-0	2	3
Sands	3	1-4	4	9
Akerman	4	0-0	1	8
Cross	5	4-7	1	15
Bates	0	2-2	1	2
Young	2	0-1	1	4
Totals	17	10-17	11	48

Mendota (36)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Bond	3	2-4	3	10
Romero	3	2-4	3	9
Perez	3	1-2	4	7
Landgraf	1	0-0	3	2
Artega	2	2-4	3	6
Stamberger	1	0-0	2	2
Totals	13	7-14	18	36

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Rock Falls	4	14	31	48
Mendota	3	9	26	36
Three-point goals: Mendota - Bond 2, Romero 1; Rock Falls - Mulnix 1, Sands 2, Cross 1				

DIXON 76, MENDOTA 49				
Mendota (49)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Bond	2	0-2	0	6
Romero	6	0-0	5	16
Perez	5	2-3	0	12
Landgraf	1	0-0	0	2
Artega	3	0-0	1	6
Stamberger	0	2-4	2	2
Nanez	1	0-0	0	3
Figueroa	1	0-0	0	2
Totals	19	4-9	8	49

Dixon (76)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Abell	4	2-2	0	12
Healy	0	0-0	1	0
Evans	0	0-0	1	0
Kyker	2	0-0	0	4
Gaither	10	3-7	1	24
Etheridge	5	0-0	0	13
Goral	1	0-0	0	2
Gusse	0	0-0	1	0
Carr	1	0-0	1	2
Pitzer	2	0-0	1	6
Hicks	1	0-0	0	2
Dever	0	0-0	2	0
Kirby	0	0-0	1	0
Roby	5	0-0	0	11
Totals	31	5-9	9	76

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	3	15	38	49
Dixon	26	38	56	76
Three-point goals: Mendota - Bond 2, Romero 4, Nanez 1; Dixon - Abell 2, Gaither 1, Etheridge 3, Pitzer 2, Roby 1				

## Soph boys dealt 3 losses

A slow start to the game put Mendota in a huge hole it could not dig out from as Rock Falls sailed to a 56-28 win in sophomore boys' basketball action on Feb. 17 at the MHS gym.

The Trojans were outscored, 12-1, in the opening stanza and never recovered. The offense heated up in the second period, but Rock Falls kept its foot on the gas pedal and owned a 31-15 halftime lead. Mendota was outscored, 25-13, in the second half.

Jose Rocha provided seven points for the Trojans, while Isaac Guzman, Ryne Strouss and Izaiah Nanez each had five markers.

\*\*\*

Winnebago sprinted out to a huge first-quarter lead and went on to down the Trojans, 67-34, on Feb. 19 at Winnebago.

The Indians owned a 21-5 lead after the first period, and while Mendota's offense heated up with 19 second-quarter points, it wasn't enough to overcome its slow start.

"Winnebago was making everything they threw at the basket and there was nothing we could do to stop them," commented MHS coach Nick Ganz.

Guzman paced Mendota with 13 points, followed by Nanez with seven and Strouss with six.

\*\*\*

Genoa-Kingston took out the Trojans, 57-39, on Feb. 20 at the MHS gym.

Mendota was only down 28-23 at intermission, but its offense went cold in the third quarter when it scored only two points compared to 15 for the Cogs.

"We couldn't buy a basket in the third and Genoa couldn't miss," said Ganz.

Nanez, Rocha and Guzman all had eight points for the Trojans.

## Offensive woes continue to plague Lady Trojans

Offense has been hard to come by all season for the Mendota Lady Trojans as witnessed by a 47-19 setback to Genoa-Kingston on Feb. 16 at Genoa.

The Lady Trojans fell behind 15-2 after the first quarter, and while they tallied 10 second-quarter points and trailed 29-12 at the half, they managed only seven points in the entire second half.

"It was a sloppy first quarter with the basketball," said Mendota coach John Hansen. "The good news is we cleaned it up and ran the offense really well and got a ton of really good looks, but we just couldn't get those looks to go in."

Reanna Brant topped Mendota scorers with six points and rebounders with six. Jenna O'Donnell contributed four points and three steals, while Karly Reel handled five caroms and Daisy Arteaga had three steals.

Mendota made just 17 percent of its field goal attempts, including one of 16 from three-point range.

\*\*\*

Another slow start out of the gate hampered the Lady Trojans in a 59-22 loss at Rock Falls on Feb. 17.

Mendota found itself down 16-5 at the conclusion of one quarter as shooting woes continued to plague the team. The Lady Trojans faced a 31-11 halftime deficit and a 47-15 margin after three.

"We played better on defense than the score shows as Rock Falls hit some tough shots in the second and third quarters," noted Hansen.

For the second straight

WINNEBAGO 56, MENDOTA 26				
Winnebago (56)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Brown	8	1-2	0	17
Bielskis	1	0-1	2	2
Rittmeyer	4	0-0	2	8
Provi	3	0-0	1	7
Intravaia	2	0-0	1	4
Schrank	7	2-2	1	16
Seger	1	0-0	1	2
Totals	26	3-5	8	56

Mendota (26)				
	FG	FT	Reb	TP
O'Donnell	0	0-0	5	0
Nanez	2	0-0	6	4
Artega	5	0-0	2	11
Fitzgerald	4	0-0	8	8
Bodmer	0	1-2	4	1
Tolentino	1	0-0	1	2
Totals	12	1-2	26	26

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Winnebago	20	34	48	56
Mendota	9	16	20	26
Three-point goals: Mendota - Arteaga 1; Winnebago - Provi 1				

ROCK FALLS 59, MENDOTA 22				
Mendota (22)				
	FG	FT	Reb	TP
O'Donnell	0	0-1	3	0
Nanez	0	3-4	7	3
Brant	1	0-1	6	2
Artega	3	3-6	3	11
Fitzgerald	1	2-6	5	4
Bodmer	0	0-0	1	0
Salinas	1	0-0	2	2
Totals	6	8-18	27	22

Rock Falls (59)				
	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Howard	1	0-0	0	3
Sigel	2	0-0	1	5
Hendrix	2	0-0	1	6
Ky. Fischbach	5	1-2	1	11
Peyton	3	3-3	0	9
Ka. Fischbach	3	1-1	1	7
Pinske	1	0-0	2	2
Lego	3	0-0	3	6
Morgan	1	2-2	4	4
Bree	0	0-0	2	0
Bickett	3	0-0	2	6
Totals	24	7-8	20	59

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
Mendota	5	11	15	22
Rock Falls	16	31	47	59
Three-point goals: Mendota - Arteaga 2; Rock Falls - Howard 1, Sigel 1, Hendrix 2				

## Mendota F-S girls beaten by four foes

\*\*\*

Rock Falls pulled away from Mendota in the second quarter and posted a 47-15 win in freshman-sophomore girls' basketball action on Feb. 17 at Rock Falls.

The Lady Trojans hung tough through one quarter, trailing by just an 8-6 count, but the home team heated up in the second period and doubled up Mendota at halftime, 22-11. Then in the second half, the Lady Trojans had just two baskets.

Katie Jenner led Mendota with five points and Naitzy Garcia added four.

\*\*\*

Winnebago handled the Lady Trojans, 41-9, on Feb. 19 at the MHS gym.



# THE FARMER'S REPORT

## Online anhydrous ammonia safety training program launched

SPRINGFIELD – Certified Grower Training is now available on the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) website.

Under a new state regulation (8IAC215), anyone who works on a farm and handles anhydrous ammonia must complete Certified Grower Training by April of 2022 and once every three years thereafter. This includes not only farm workers who apply the nitrogen fertilizer to fields, but also those who transport nurse tanks to and from suppliers and those who maintain anhydrous ammonia equipment.

“Although the requirement doesn’t take effect until 2022, I encourage everyone who must complete the training to do so as soon as possible,” IDOA Acting Director Jerry Costello II said. “Anhydrous ammonia is potentially dangerous if not handled properly, and the safety lessons taught in this training could prevent serious injury or even death.”

The training program can be accessed through a link posted on the website’s homepage. It directs visitors to a portal that includes step-by-step instructions for creating a user account and viewing the training. Other useful information such as answers to frequently asked questions and a copy of the new state anhydrous ammonia regulations are also posted on the homepage.

Plans are to offer a classroom version of the training as well. However, the coro-



navirus pandemic has put in-person courses on hold.

The Department and supportive farm groups are currently looking for qualified trainers to teach the in-person classes. Once face-to-face meetings are safe to resume, Train-the-Trainer sessions will begin to equip these volunteers with the materials they need to present the class.

Trainers must possess the following qualifications:

- Minimum 5 years of experience in the anhydrous ammonia industry; practical experience with storage, application and equipment operation, inspection and maintenance;
- Comfort speaking in groups and ability to relate to growers and answer their questions;
- Experience using a computer, projector and microphone and have access to suitable meeting rooms or outside venues to conduct training;
- Good organization and communication skills and

an ability to maintain and transmit training rosters to the IDOA;

• Capability to become a Certified Competent Attendant and commit to attend this IDOA-sponsored training annually.

Persons who meet these requirements and are interested in becoming a trainer should contact Jeff Squibb at the Illinois Department of Agriculture (217-785-8212; jeff.squibb@illinois.gov), John Rebholz at the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association (309-827-2774; john@ifca.com), Travis Deppe at the Illinois Corn Growers Association (309-557-3257; tdeppe@ilcorn.org), Mike Levin at the Illinois Soybean Association (309-808-3606; levinm@ilsoy.org), or Lauren Lurkins at the Illinois Farm Bureau (309-530-0398; llurkins@ilfb.org).

Regardless of whether the training is online or in-person, it must be offered to participants at no cost.

## IDOA announces its dicamba decision for 2021 growing season

SPRINGFIELD -The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) has registered the following dicamba products for the use on soybeans for the 2021 growing season: XtendiMax with Vapor Grip Technology, Engenia Herbicide, and Tavium Plus Vapor Grip Technology. The new federal label for dicamba was issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on Oct. 27, 2020.

The new federal label requirements for these products include:

- Requiring an approved pH-buffering agent, also known as a volatility reducing agent, be tank mixed with dicamba products prior to all applications.
- Requiring a downwind buffer of 240 feet and 310 feet in areas where listed endangered species are located.
- Additional recordkeeping items.

The approved federal label also includes a cutoff date of June 30 for application of these products on soybeans. However, IDOA will be utilizing its authority pursuant to Section 24(a) of FIFRA and relevant provisions of the Illinois Pesticide Act to impose a cutoff date of June 20 for application on soybeans. In addition to the June 20 cutoff date, IDOA also intends to include the following additional applica-

tion restrictions for application of these products on soybeans:

- Temperature restriction of 85 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Requirement to consult the Field Watch sensitive crop registry <https://www.fieldwatch.com> before application.
- Prohibiting application if the wind is blowing toward any Illinois Nature Preserves Commission site that is adjacent to the proposed field of application.
- Prohibiting application when the wind is blowing toward an adjacent residential area.

“This decision was made after evaluating several factors, including the reduction of pesticide misuse cases involving the use of dicamba on soybeans from 2019 to 2020,” said Acting Director Jerry Costello II. “In 2020, the Department included an 85-degree temperature restriction in addition to the June 20 cutoff date, resulting in an 80% decrease in dicamba misuse complaints.”

Dicamba is a herbicide commonly used on soybeans and cotton. Illinois ranks first in the nation for soybean production producing 532 billion bushels of soybeans per year. The July 30 cutoff date for application of these products on cotton will not be affected.

## USDA extends General Signup for Conservation Reserve Program

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is extending the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Signup period, which had previously been announced as ending on Feb. 12, 2021.

USDA will continue to accept offers as it takes this opportunity for the incoming Administration to evaluate ways to increase enrollment. Under the previous Administration, incentives and rental payment rates were reduced resulting in an enrollment shortfall of over 4 million acres. The program, administered by USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides annual rental payments for 10 to 15 years for land devoted to conservation purposes, as well as other types of payments.

Before the General CRP signup period ends, producers will have the opportunity to adjust or resubmit their offers to take advantage of planned improvements to the program.

“The Conservation Reserve Program provides a tremendous opportunity to address climate change both by retiring marginal cropland and by restoring grasslands, wetlands, and forests,” said Robert Bonnie, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary. “CRP has a 35-year track record of success beyond just climate benefits, by providing income to producers, improving water quality, reducing erosion, and supporting wildlife habitat and the hunting and fishing opportunities that go along with it. By extending this signup period, we’ll

have time to evaluate and implement changes to get this neglected program back on track.”

As one of the largest private-lands conservation programs in the United States, CRP provides both economic and conservation benefits by taking land out of agricultural production. Program successes include:

- Sequestering in soils and plants over 12 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e), or about the same amount that the entire state of Delaware emits annually.
- Preventing more than 2 billion tons of soil from being blown away by wind erosion over the life of currently enrolled acres.
- Reducing phosphorus reaching streams by almost 85 million pounds, nitrogen by nearly 450 million pounds, and sediment by over 160 million tons in 2020 alone.
- Creating more than 2.3 million acres of restored wetlands while protecting more than 177,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, enough to go around the world seven times.
- Establishing over a half million acres of dedicated pollinator habitat and nearly 15 million more acres of diverse plantings that provide forage for pollinators.
- Increasing populations of ducks and other game birds, prairie chickens, and such grassland songbirds as Baird’s Sparrow. CRP in the Northern Great Plains supports an estimated 8.6% of the grassland bird population.
- Increasing habitat that supports economic opportunities, such as job creation, related to hunting and fishing activities.

This signup for CRP gives producers an opportunity to enroll land for the first time or re-enroll land under existing contracts that will be expiring Sept. 30, 2021. All interested producers, including those on Indian reservations and with trust lands, are encouraged to contact their local USDA Service Center for more information.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines.





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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Pritzker outlines \$41.6 billion budget with flat spending

By **JERRY NOWICKI**  
and **PETER HANCOCK**  
*Capitol News Illinois*

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker outlined a \$41.6 billion budget proposal Feb. 17 that would hold most state agencies at flat funding levels but which relies heavily on changes to the state's corporate tax structure that lawmakers have not yet approved.

The budget proposal, which is only the governor's request for lawmakers in the General Assembly, does not call for income tax increases. Over the next four months, lawmakers will work on an operating budget of their own to send to the governor, which may or may not address all of his requests.

It also does not rely on any federal funding increases that have not yet been passed into law, although a federal Medicaid reimbursement rate increase that is already in place does account for a \$638 million reduction to the state's expenditures.

It was Pritzker's third budget message since taking office in 2019. And unlike others that were delivered from the House chamber in the Capitol, this year's message was delivered remotely through a prerecorded video due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The address was recorded at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, which now serves as a COVID-19 vaccination site.

In his speech, Pritzker had harsh rhetoric for "far right" Republicans at all levels of government, describing them as "carnival barkers," for lobbying against federal relief to states and for defying health guidelines. He also once again made note of the two-year budget impasse presided over by Republican former Gov. Bruce Rauner,

calling it a "self-inflicted" period of suffering, which saw the state's backlog of unpaid bills balloon to over \$16 billion.

He said in the past 20 years, as pension payments have become an increasing burden on state finances, Illinois' number of government employees has shrunk by 30 percent, the Illinois State Police force has shrunk by 40 percent, and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency work force shrunk by 60 percent, he said.

"If there is anything the last year should have taught us, it is that we need a reliably well-funded government," he said. "Many on the far right have made their name in politics by touting cuts to unemployment programs and health insurance coverage. They called anyone who sought unemployment benefits 'takers.' They demonize state employees. And they fought unrelentingly to eliminate any state or federal funds designed to make health care more accessible, equitable and fair."

The budget proposed for fiscal year 2022 relies on more than \$900 million in corporate tax changes that will require action from the General Assembly. Those include a reversal of previous General Assembly action to repeal the corporate franchise tax, a cap on net operating losses for the fiscal year that would allow for \$314 million in savings and a cap on a retailer's discount to \$1,000 per month, and other changes.

But Republicans and business groups lambasted the governor's plan as a tax increase on businesses and a betrayal of a bipartisan compromise budget, which members of both parties celebrated in Pritzker's first year.

Republican House Mi-

nority Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, accused the governor of seeking "payback" in his effort to repeal some corporate tax incentives passed by lawmakers in 2019, alleging that it was in response to the November failure of the graduated income tax.

Senate Minority Leader Dan McConchie, R-Hawthorn Woods, called the budget an attempt to "move money around" and raise corporate taxes.

While the governor characterized his corporate tax changes of closing "corporate loopholes," Republicans characterized it as an elimination of important incentives aimed at keeping job creators in the state.

Illinois Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Todd Maisch characterized the tax changes as "a massive tax increase."

"We understand that the state has fiscal problems to address, however, the governor's plan will have a long-term negative impact on job creation and tax revenues for the state as it produces an unfair increase on taxpayers after they resoundingly defeated the graduated income tax," Maisch said in an email statement. "This not only will expand what will get taxed, but will also reduce key tax credits for vital sectors of the economy."

Much of Pritzker's speech was dedicated to demonstrating the toll of the pandemic both on society and state finances.

"I had bolder plans for our state budget than what I am going to present to you today. It would be a lie to suggest otherwise," Pritzker said. "But as all our families have had to make hard choices over the last year, so too does state government."

Senior budget officials, in

a briefing before the address was streamed, noted the governor will still seek to decouple the state tax code from changes allowed in the federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security, or CARES, Act. That change would keep revenues flat from a year ago by providing that the CARES Act cuts passed last year would not automatically reduce Illinois state tax burdens for businesses.

The measure failed in the lame duck session as Republicans blasted it as a more than \$500 million tax increase on businesses, but Democrats at the time said it was a way to prevent revenue loss by maintaining the status quo.

Total revenues for the year represent a 4.1 percent decrease from a year ago, due in large part to \$2 billion in borrowing from the federal Municipal Liquidity Facility program, \$690 million of which is due in fiscal year 2022 but will be prepaid in fiscal year 2021, according to budget officials. Another \$1.2 billion in MLF borrowing from June 2020 is also due to be repaid in the current fiscal year.

K-12 education funding from the state will remain flat from a year ago, the second straight year the state would forgo that added \$350 million called for in state law each year as part of an evidence-based funding formula.

The budget proposal also eliminates a 48-month deadline for repaying interfund borrowing, which alleviates \$276 million of pressure in the current fiscal year by allowing the state to repay fund borrowing on an extended deadline.

The budget calls for a full pension payment and increases funding for the

Department of Children and Family Services by 7.9 percent. Pritzker also asked lawmakers to pass a standalone bill increasing spending for the Illinois Department of Employment Security by \$60 million in federal funds for the current fiscal year and called for an added \$73 million for the current fiscal year in federal funds.

Higher education would see funding levels maintained and Monetary Award Program grants for college students would increase by \$28 million, per the governor's request.

Pritzker's budget proposal also calls for an 8 percent reduction, or \$638 million, in Medicaid expenses. That's because the federal government has increased its share of Medicaid funding by 6.2 percentage points through the end of 2021 as part of its pandemic response plan.

Local governments also would see a cut in financial assistance they get from the state. The Local Government Distributive Fund, or LGDF, which gives local governments a share of the income tax revenue the state collects, would only be funded at 90 percent, but officials in the governor's office said they expect that cut to be offset by gains they municipalities would realize through the closing of corporate tax loopholes.

Budget officials also claimed the budget shortfall for the current fiscal year has been addressed through the federal borrowing, \$700 million in operational cuts and revenues performing better than projections. The state is now projecting a surplus of \$77 million for the current fiscal year, along with the ability to prepay some of the Municipal Liquidity Facility borrowing from the previous fiscal year.

### IVCC proposes course fee changes

OGLESBY — The Illinois Valley Community College board's audit finance committee reviewed course fees, a transfer of funds for deferred maintenance, seeking proposals for auditing services and student organization budgets on Feb. 11.

The administration proposed changes to 100 course fees including 81 increases, 12 new courses, one decrease, removal of course fees from five courses and the assignment of course fees to one existing course. In total, there are 355 courses with fees.

In other business, the committee reviewed a commitment to transfer \$539,063 to a Capital Development Board trust account at Midland States Bank. The transfer covers the anticipated local match for the air moisture infiltration deferred maintenance project once the undertaking has ICCB and IVCC board approval.

The state will pay 75 percent or \$1.6 million of the \$2.1 million project involving caulking and sealing exterior precast concrete panels on the original buildings.

The committee also considered:

- The administration request to seek proposals for auditing services. Board policy requires proposals be sought every six years. Wipfli LLP's contract expired with the 2020 audit.

- Budgets for 43 student organizations. Total allocations have been reduced from \$41,500 in 2019-20 to \$31,250 in 2020-21.

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- 4 Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items—more.
- 5 Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
- 6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
- 7 Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Mendota's diversity, charm and appeal; which in turn, attracts new community members.
- 8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Mendota. When shopping locally, you create funds for more city and county services through sales tax. In turn, these funds are invested in neighborhood services including police, fire and ambulance as well as park and library improvements.
- 9 Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation and repeat business, which means you get a higher standard of service.

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in collaboration with local businesses, announces the launch of the area-wide **COMMUNITY MATTERS** campaign to encourage residents to shop locally & support the Mendota Area economy.

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# KIDS' FUN PAGE



ATTENTION TO DETAIL AND CAREFUL MEASUREMENTS ARE REQUIRED DURING THIS CULINARY ACTIVITY.

ANSWER: BAKING

## What's the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

**A**



**B**



Answers: 1. Fortune cookie next to wrist 2. Missing cookie heart middle at bottom 3. Cookie middle inside of cookie in middle 4. Cream instead of jam

THIS DAY IN...



## HISTORY

- **1815:** NAPOLEON BONAPARTE ESCAPES FROM EXILE IN ELBA.
- **1919:** THE GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK IS ESTABLISHED.
- **1935:** RADIO DETECTION AND RANGING IS FIRST DEMONSTRATED BY ROBERT WATSON-WATT. THIS LEADS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RADAR.

## New Word

**FOLD**

to mix an ingredient gently

## How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Flour

**SPANISH:** Harina

**ITALIAN:** Farina

**FRENCH:** Farine

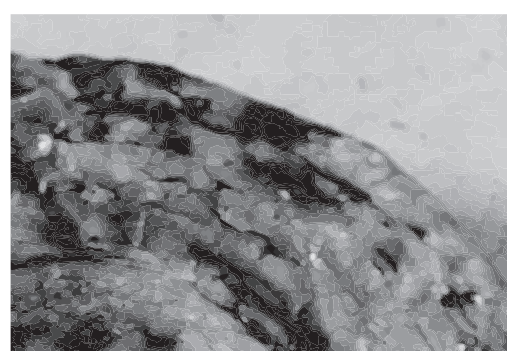
**GERMAN:** Mehl

## Did you know?

THE FIRST CUPCAKE RECIPE WAS INVENTED IN 1776. IT WAS A LIGHT CAKE BAKED IN SMALL CUPS. THE SECOND CUPCAKE RECIPE WAS INVENTED IN 1871.



## GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CINNAMON ROLL

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www.vaessenbrothers.com

## BEAUTY SALON

**J.C.'s Headquarters**  
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810 Washington St. • 815-538-5171

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**Baker's Computer & Office Services**  
4119 N. State Hwy. 251 • Mendota  
Ph. 815-538-6290  
Fax 815-538-7032  
email: tux\_dawg@frontier.com

## CARPENTRY

**Jones Home Improvement**  
Anthony J. Jones  
815-539-6175

## CARPET & FLOORING

**Meyers Furniture & Carpet**  
1901 S. 13th Ave.  
815-539-6263

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce**  
800 Washington St.  
815-539-6507

## CONCRETE CONTRACTOR

**Barkman Concrete Construction, Inc.**  
705 Illinois Ave.  
815-539-3705  
Decorative Concrete • Foundations •  
Driveways • Sidewalks

## CONTRACTORS - GENERAL

**Mauch Carpentry**  
705 Illinois Ave.  
815-539-7867  
License #104005528

## DENTISTS

**Krenz Dental, Ltd.**  
Robert Krenz, D.D.S. • Jon Krenz, D.M.D.  
704 Indiana Ave. • 815-538-5316

## ELECTRICAL

**Triple Service**  
Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Electric  
801 Monroe St.  
815-539-3828  
IL Lic. #055-041123

## ELECTRICAL/CONTRACTING

**Carriage House Electric**  
105 12th St.  
815-538-5598

## FAST TITLE & LICENSE

**Setchell Agency, Ltd.**  
618 6th St. • Mendota  
815-539-9311

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

**Eureka Savings Bank**  
1300 13th Ave.  
815-539-5656  
Member FDIC

**Financial Plus Credit Union**  
1905 13th Ave.  
815-539-3444  
Member NCUA-ESI

**First Federal Savings Bank**  
1205 Washington St.  
815-539-6757  
Member FDIC

**First State Bank**  
706 Washington St. • Main  
1403 13th Ave. • Plaza  
815-538-2265  
firststatebank.biz  
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## FINANCIAL PLANNING

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815-539-3437  
chris@chris-eller.com

## FIREPLACES

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Water Street • Peru  
815-223-1742

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815-539-9341

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Route 251 South • Mendota  
815-539-9343

## HARDWARE STORES

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815-539-3828  
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## Walter Bros.

**Plumbing-Heating-Cooling**  
909 Washington St.  
815-538-6516  
IL Lic. #058-102682

## HOSPITALS

**OSF HealthCare**  
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1401 E. 12th St.  
815-539-7461  
www.osfsaintpaul.org

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**Kurt Bruno State Farm**  
1103 Main St. • 815-539-3878

**Setchell Agency, Ltd.**  
618 Sixth St. • 815-539-9311

## KITCHEN & BATH

**Maze Lumber**  
Water Street • Peru  
815-223-1742

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815-539-6263

## OFFICE SUPPLY

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In Business 38 Years • IL Lic. #058-097742

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IL Lic. #055-041123

## Walter Bros.

**Plumbing-Heating-Cooling**  
909 Washington St.  
815-538-6516  
IL Lic. #058-102682

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**N.L. Morton Buildings, Ltd.**  
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815-539-9325  
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815-535-6295 • Lorierbes@gmail.com

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1316 Lakewood Plaza, #5  
815-539-3811

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815-539-5673

**Town & Country Realty**  
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(815) 539-6635

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815-849-5476

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hrblock.com

**Setchell Agency, Ltd.**  
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815-539-9311

## THRIFT STORES

**Nightengales Thrift Shop**  
708 Jefferson St. • 815-539-6100  
Supports Trinity Health Care Clinic • 815-910-0200

## TRANSPORTATION

**Mendota Area Senior Services**  
1901 Tom Merwin Drive  
815-539-7700  
mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com

## TOWING

**Ramer Automotive & Towing**  
Paul & Matt Ramer  
4266 E. 4th Road  
815-539-5321

## VETERINARIANS

**Ancare Veterinary Clinic**  
Stephen J. Dullard, DVM, ABVP  
1205 Sixth Ave.  
815-539-3844  
www.ancarevet.com

**Mendota Companion Animal Centre**  
Cathy J. Wolf, DVM  
Rt. 251 N.  
815-539-6601  
www.mendotavet.com

## WINDOWS & DECKING

**Maze Lumber**  
Water Street • Peru  
815-223-1742



City of  
Mendota

800 Washington Street  
815-539-7459  
www.mendota.il.us

**Eureka Savings**  
**BANK**  
MEMBER FDIC

1300 13th Ave.  
815-539-5656  
www.eurekasavings.com

**FIRST STATE BANK**

706 Washington St. • Main  
1403 13th Ave. • Plaza  
815.538.2265



firststatebank.biz



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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Finding determination to fulfill your dreams

God is the Chief of Change. He is always doing a new thing...always working in our lives. However, His promises for us don't just automatically happen. All things are possible with God, but not all things will positively happen.

There are some things that can hinder us from moving forward in life. One is an old mindset. Mark 2:22 says, "No one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the

skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour the new wine into new wineskins" (NIV).

In other words, your mind needs to be renewed. You need a fresh new outlook based on God's Word and His promises. Because knowing God's will for your life will help you in your determination to keep moving.

### Opportunity and Opposition

When you decide to move forward, be prepared because you will be opposed. The apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 16:9 that "a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me." I like to call these adversaries "giants." Whatever you call it, the enemy will not make it easy for you to do God's will. It will be up to you to stay determined and keep pressing on.

One of the tactics of the enemy is to lie to you. For example, he may tell you, "It's too late." You may be thinking of going back to school after many years. Or maybe you need to make up for some past mistakes. It's not too late. You might have had a big dream at one time that you never fulfilled. It's never too late for you to follow your passion. Don't believe Satan's lies. You can always begin again!

### Be Steadfast

One word of caution: Don't start if you aren't determined to finish. The reason I say this is because the enemy certainly won't stop fighting your advancement. He is determined to stop you, so you must be unwavering about moving forward.

I will never forget



when I first started talking about the call of God on my life. Some of my friends decided I must be mistaken. They told me I didn't have the personality to do this kind of ministry. It was discouraging to say the least, and I was eventually asked to leave my church, I lost friends, and even some family members turned their backs on me. But I knew God had spoken to me about the ministry He was calling me to do, and I was determined to see it through.

I had to press through quite a few obstacles to do what I do now. But what if I had given up when I felt that rejection? I would not be fulfilling God's call on my life today—and I would be miserable, because this is my passion.

Have you asked God to use you? If you are feeling a real passion to do something that aids or brings peace and encouragement to other people, it's very likely that this desire is from God. And if you don't do it, you will probably live a frustrated life.

Also, as you move forward, beware: The devil wants to set you up to get upset. That is another part of his strategy to stop you from making progress. He will use people to distract you, criticize you, or outright reject you. And if that doesn't stop you, he will likely attack other areas of your life to try and discourage you.

### Keep Moving

Just remember, greater is He that is in you! (See 1 John 4:4.) You have all you need, through Christ, to endure and outlast the devil. As you press in and press on, don't look at yourself...look at God. Ignore others' criticism and unbelief and follow your God-given dream. Be determined to press past every lie of the enemy, every discouragement, and even rejection from others.

Whatever you do, just keep moving! When you feel disheartened...keep moving. When others condemn you...keep moving. Never give up!

Take a lesson from David who was anointed 20 years before he became

king (see 1 Samuel 17). He endured and overcame many obstacles in the meantime, including a bear, a lion and a giant! Like David, don't be afraid to face your enemy. Remember the things God has brought you through and talk about your past victories, knowing that He is with you now.

As long as you lean on, trust in, and depend on God, it will never be too late for your victory!

\*\*\*

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-CD series Pressing In and Pressing On. 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 (Faith Words). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

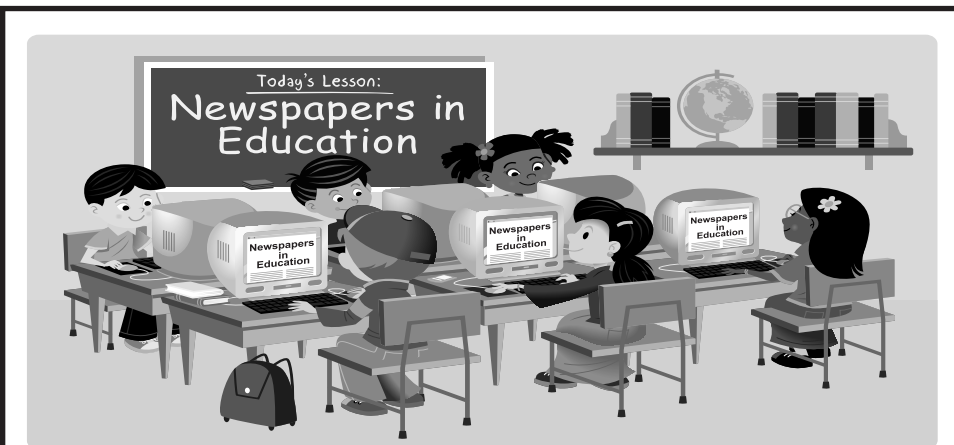
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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## 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](mailto:pastorhogunkim@gmail.com)

Church office  
(815) 538-2186

Email: [zionumcmendota@gmail.com](mailto:zionumcmendota@gmail.com)

Website: [www.zionchurchumc.com](http://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](http://www.cayabc.com)

Email prayer requests: [prayer@cayabc.com](mailto: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](mailto:mendotaupc@yahoo.com)  
[www.mendotaupc.org](http://www.mendotaupc.org)

**SUNDAY:** Christian Education  
Sunday Worship

**WEDNESDAY**

#### VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Faithful & Effective"

505 W. 7th Ave.  
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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](http://www.newcovenantmendota.org)  
[www.facebook.com/NCAOG](https://www.facebook.com/NCAOG)

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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](http://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](mailto:office@stjohnsmendota.org)

Website:  
[www.stjohnsmendota.org](http://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

*Behold, you are fair, my love! Behold, you are fair!  
You have dove's eyes behind your veil.  
Your hair is like a flock of goats,  
Going down from Mount Gilead.*

Song of Solomon 4:1

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#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1003 5th St. • (815) 538-5603  
.....

Rev. Susan Presley

Website: [fpcmendota.com](http://fpcmendota.com)

Accessible  
**DIGITAL SCHEDULE:**

**Sunday Worship:**

Please see our Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/fpcmendota](https://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

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### COMPTON

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398 Church Road • Compton  
.....

Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger  
(815) 539-6567

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Website: [www.ilccompton.org](http://www.ilccompton.org)

E-mail: [immanuellutherancompton@live.com](mailto:immanuellutherancompton@live.com)

"Living in God's Grace as a  
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**WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

*At this time in-person worship has  
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Please check out Immanuel's  
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Sunday worship videos and other  
worship opportunities.*

#### COMPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

139 W. Chestnut  
Compton

(815) 497-2491  
.....

Pastor Dana Cox  
[pawpawumc@juno.com](mailto:pawpawumc@juno.com)  
Sunday Worship

### LA MOILLE

#### ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LaMoille (Clarion)

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Sunday Worship  
Sunday School

Accessible

#### COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

La Moille  
(815) 638-2348  
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Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: [lamoillecumc@gmail.com](mailto:lamoillecumc@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
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208 W. South St., Troy Grove  
.....

Pastor Brian Hamiel

Website: [www.faithbiblefellowship.info](http://www.faithbiblefellowship.info)

E-mail: [fbfchurch20817@gmail.com](mailto:fbfchurch20817@gmail.com)

"At Faith Bible Fellowship, we exist  
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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 2 Peter in Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 4, how many days and nights did Jesus fast before his temptation by Satan?  
3, 12, 40, 7x70
3. In Genesis 24, who played the matchmaker for Isaac and Rebekah?  
Nahor, A shepherd, Bethuel, Abraham's servant
4. From Proverbs 6, what is held up as an example to the lazy man?  
Bee, Flea, Locust, Ant
5. Who said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away"?  
Satan, Adam, Job, Haman
6. Who/what was Shishak?  
Roast lamb, Birthplace of Moses, Serpent, King of Egypt



ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) 40; 3) Abraham's servant; 4) Ant; 5) Job 1:21; 6) King of Egypt

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

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Phone (815) 539-5656

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Phone (815) 538-2265

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

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Phone (815) 539-7211

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

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Phone (815) 539-6354

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1204 13th Ave., Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-9394

TRIPLE SERVICE, INC.  
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Phone (815) 539-3828

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2112 W. Main St., Mendota, Ill.  
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Rte. 34 East, Mendota, Ill.  
Phone (815) 539-5060





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**NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on February 3, 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 the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Expressions Salon located at 709 Illinois Avenue Mendota, IL 61342. Dated: February 3, 2021.  
Marion Quintana.  
Applicant  
No. 0204  
(2/10, 2/17, 2/24 2021)

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LA SALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF )  
Larry A. Stamberger, )  
Deceased )  
Case No. 2021-P-22  
**CLAIM NOTICE**  
Notice is given of the death of Larry A. Stamberger of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 27, 2021 to John Beetz of 684 N. 44th Road, Mendota, IL 61342 whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before August 20, 2021. If a claim notice is mailed or delivered personally to a creditor of the decedent, the creditor's claim may be filed on or before the date stated in the notice, if later than the date shown above. Any claim not filed within the time allowed is barred.  
Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.  
No. 0206  
(2/17, 2/24, 3/3 2021)

## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

## 105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

## 113 FINANCIAL

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

## 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

lowed is barred.  
Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.  
No. 0205  
(2/10, 2/17, 2/24 2021)

## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LA SALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF )  
Bruce A. Smith, )  
Deceased )  
Case No. 2021-P-29  
**CLAIM NOTICE**  
Notice is given of the death of Bruce A. Smith of Mendota, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on February 4, 2021 to Claudia Carstens Smith of 1808 Washington NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418 whose attorney is Guilfoyle & Stevenson, LLP, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before August 20, 2021. If a claim notice is mailed or delivered personally to a creditor of the decedent, the creditor's claim may be filed on or before the date stated in the notice, if later than the date shown above. Any claim not filed within the time allowed is barred.  
Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within ten days after it has been filed.  
No. 0206  
(2/17, 2/24, 3/3 2021)

## 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 its care.

## 203 HELP WANTED

**SENIOR COUPLE** Seeks Mature/Responsible Person(s) for Picking up Groceries, Light Housekeeping, Cooking, Kitty care, & Some Personal Care Duties. NEED ASAP! 815-243-1130. Rochelle (03-03-21)  
**N E W S P A P E R CARRIERS** Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For More Information.

## 203 HELP WANTED

**City of Mendota**

The City of Mendota has an opening for a full-time permanent employee in the Public Works Department. Applicant must have a strong welding and mechanical background and have experience with hand tools, power tools and heavy machinery. Applicant must be able to obtain a Class B CDL with air brake and tanker endorsements at minimum. High school diploma or equivalent is required. Vocational school graduates encouraged to apply. Resumes accepted until 4:00 pm March 1, 2021.

Self-motivated individuals can send resumes including employment history to:

**City of Mendota**  
ATTN: Personnel  
800 Washington Street  
Mendota, Illinois 61342

EOE. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

02152021

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You choose the hours you work.  
Do you have clientele but don't have anywhere to perform your services?  
Downtown Amboy salon has chair rental/space available for Barber, hair stylist, and/or nail technician.  
Call Kirsten at 815-994-6323.

02242021

**Call us to place an ad 815-539-9396!**

## 205 SITUATIONS WANTED

**LOOKING to LEASE** Deer Hunting Property for 2021, In Ogle or Stephenson County. Please Contact Bob Kunesh 630-306-7454. (02-28-21)

## 301 ANTIQUES

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

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

## 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**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

## 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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.

## 601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2005 Silver Chevrolet Malibu For Sale. New Tires, Auto Start, 117,000 Miles. \$2600 OBO. Call 224-325-9597. (02-24-21)

## 501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

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

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Not sure why business is slow?

OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND...

is not just a saying in business.

Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers.

## 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.

## HEALTH

**GASTRIC BYPASS SURGERY FOR WEIGHT LOSS?** If you or a loved one had this surgery and suffered serious injury or death? You may be entitled to compensation. Attorney Charles Johnson 1-800-535-5727

## WANTED

**FREON WANTED:** We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

## 601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

**2020 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD**

GM Certified with leather interior, heated/cooled seats, dual sunroof, touch screen radio display, and much more! 19k miles, Black

**\$45,900**

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2020 Chevy Tahoe LT 4x4 Loaded, DVD, Sunroof Nav, 21K Miles .....\$49,900	2018 Chevy Equinox LT FWD, White.....\$18,500
2020 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD, Loaded, GM Exec Black .....\$45,900	2018 Chevy Equinox LT FWD, Gray.....\$17,500
2019 GMC Terrain SLT AWD, 14K Miles .....\$27,900	2018 Chevy Equinox FWD LT Sunroof, 62K Miles Black.....\$17,500
2019 Buick Encore Preferred FWD, 10k mi, White.\$17,500	2018 Chevy Malibu LT Black.....\$16,900
2018 Chevy Traverse AWD Premier, 54K Miles Silver.....\$30,500	2018 Chevy Equinox LT FWD, Blue .....\$16,900
	2018 Chevy Malibu LT 45K Miles, Tan .....\$15,500

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

2018 Chevy Traverse 3LT, AWD Leather, Gray.....\$26,900	2015 Chevy Traverse AWD LTZ, 90K mi, White....\$18,900
2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, LT, Maroon.....\$30,900	2015 Chevy Equinox 2 LT FWD, White.....\$14,500
2016 Chevy Traverse AWD 2 LT, Leather, 75K mi Maroon.....\$18,500	

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Remarkable 3 bedroom 2-story home in Mendota on a wooded and shaded lot! If you are a fan of old houses, this is the one for you. Features stunning wood flooring, 2 huge bathrooms, a walk in closet, and an area for laundry. Tons of updates, ask to see the checklist! There is a large deck attached to the back with a super unique summer kitchen! 2 car garage with large workshop and office w/air condition/heat within it.

206 S. Poplar St., Sublette \$129,900

Captivating and spacious 2 story Sublette home. Features 3 beautifully bright bedrooms, an office, and 1 bathroom. Stunning natural woodwork throughout the entire home. Equipped with central air and heat, as well as provisions for a woodburner. All appliances stay besides the clothes washer and dryer. There is also a 32x32 (3) car garage with heat and concrete flooring.

18 N Blackstone Ave., Amboy \$113,400

This home is all ready for you! Cozy 3 bedroom home with a gas fireplace! This 1.5 story offers main floor laundry and 2 main floor bedrooms. The upstairs bedroom is spacious and unique. The backyard features a concrete patio, spacious yard, and a paved path to the 3 car detached garage.

568 Slant Rd., West Brooklyn \$180,000

1.5-story fixer-upper on 5 acres! Enjoy the beautiful country views from the front screen room. Offers 5 bedrooms, 1 bath, and a spacious dining area. Land has many outbuildings perfect for animals or they can be purposed to fit your needs

319 W. Pieronnet St., Amboy \$89,900

Cozy ranch style Amboy home! Offers 3 bedrooms and 1 bath. Some recent updates, ask listing agent. The kitchen/dining area has large windows that fill the room beautiful natural light. Appliances in the kitchen are new and stay. The basement is full and unfinished. Walk out the back door and find a spacious backyard with a partial fence and a detached garage. Move-in ready!

1460 SLEEPY HOLLOW ROAD, AMBOY PENDING \$109,500

25 W MILTON ST., AMBOY 5 LOTS \$28,500

109 W MAIN ST., SUBLETTE \$20,000

SEE US ABOUT WOODHAVEN LAKES PROPERTIES!

CONGRATULATIONS JAMI BAUER ON SELLING YOUR 1ST MILLION!

JAMI BAUER Broker 815-993-7751

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206 S. Poplar St., Sublette \$129,900

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18 N Blackstone Ave., Amboy \$113,400

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206 S. Poplar St., Sublette \$129,900

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568 Slant Rd., West Brooklyn \$180,000

1.5-story fixer-upper on 5 acres! Enjoy the beautiful country views from the front screen room. Offers 5 bedrooms, 1 bath, and a spacious dining area. Land has many outbuildings perfect for animals or they can be purposed to fit your needs

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25 W MILTON ST., AMBOY 5 LOTS \$28,500

109 W MAIN ST., SUBLETTE \$20,000

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JAMI BAUER Broker 815-993-7751

1506 Lincoln Ave., Mendota \$119,900

Remarkable 3 bedroom 2-story home in Mendota on a wooded and shaded lot! If you are a fan of old houses, this is the one for you. Features stunning wood flooring, 2 huge bathrooms, a walk in closet, and an area for laundry. Tons of updates, ask to see the checklist! There is a large deck attached to the back with a super unique summer kitchen! 2 car garage with large workshop and office w/air condition/heat within it.

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**SAY GOODBYE TO THE SUBZERO TEMPS AND SNOW... THINK SPRING!**

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JOE 815-910-5673  
DICK 815-539-5673  
MELODY 815-228-2842  
MARTY 815-200-2233  
SHARON 815-343-3600  
RYAN 815-830-8636

**WE HAVE BUYERS AND NEED LISTINGS.**

CALL US AT THE OFFICE 815 539-5673 OR OUR CELL PHONES LISTED IN THIS AD.

WE ALSO HAVE BUILDING LOTS IN MENDOTA AND EARLVILLE FOR SALE

PLEASE CALL US FOR MORE INFORMATION

**WANT TO SELL? CALL 539-3811 AN LET'S GET TOGETHER TO MAKE AN ANALYSIS FOR YOUR PROPERTY! IT'S FREE**

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**SOLD**.....\$38,500

AMBOY - 3 BDRM - REHABBER .....

\$29,900

MENDOTA - 3 BDR, 2 BATH **SOLD**.....

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**SOLD**.....\$74,900

NEW LISTING

MENDOTA - 4 BDR. - 2 BATH - NEW ROOF - 2 CAR GARAGE WITH WORKSHOP

**PENDING** .....\$97,500

MENDOTA - 3 BRD, 1.5 BATH - FULL BASEMENT

**PENDING** .....\$107,900

MENDOTA - BRICK - 4 BDR, 2 BATH - RANCH - COUNTRY

**REDUCED** .....\$157,000

MENDOTA - BRICK RANCH 3 BDR. - 1.5 BATHS - NORTHBROOK

**PENDING** .....\$174,900

MENDOTA - COMM BUILDING & WELL ESTABLISHED RETAIL BUSINESS.....

\$165,000

**BUILDING LOTS**

15 ABBALLEE WAY, MENDOTA - COUNTRY SUBD .....

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318 W BRYANT WOODS, PRINCETON - GREAT VIEWS.....

\$33,000

**WE HAVE NEW LISTINGS COMING SOON! CHECK US OUT AT WWW.TCREALTYSALES.NET!**



0 N 43RD RD, MENDOTA- 48.3 ACRES- FARMLAND

156 E US HWY 52, MENDOTA- .71 ACRES- BUILDABLE

LOT 8 CHAR LU DRIVE, MENDOTA-.4 ACRES- BUILDABLE

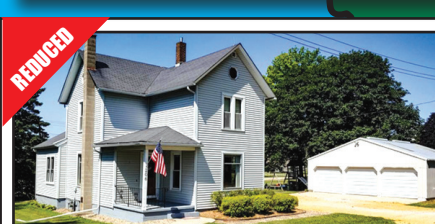
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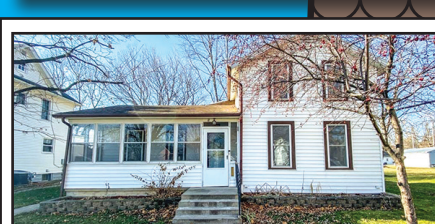
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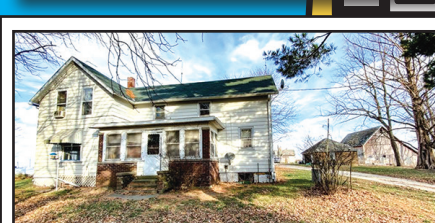
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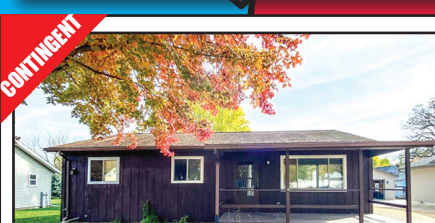
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