



Added security
City of Mendota employee Nick Stremlau installs a security camera at the corner of Jefferson Street and Illinois Avenue. Three new security cameras were put up in the downtown area and two were added to Strouss Park. (Reporter photo)

Report: State energy laws created a ‘profit machine’ for ComEd

By SARAH MANSUR
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — State energy laws passed in 2011 and 2013 allowed Commonwealth Edison to earn huge profits while the utility giant failed to fulfill its promise of consumer savings and benefits, according to a new report issued by an independent public interest group.

The report from the Illinois Public Interest Research Group describes the energy laws as a “profit machine”

for ComEd, the largest utility company in the state. The laws established a formula rate “that guaranteed revenue and profits,” weakening the regulatory role of the Illinois Commerce Commission.

The Illinois General Assembly passed the Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act in 2011 over the veto of then-Gov. Pat Quinn. The law required ComEd to spend at least \$2.6 billion on infrastructure improvements – up to \$3 billion – over a

period of five to 10 years and created a formula for raising consumer rates based on those expenditures.

The “performance-based formula rate” included a mechanism for the utility to increase its service rates and recover the costs of delivering its services “prudently incurred and reasonable in amount.” The Illinois Commerce Commission, which

See ComEd, Page A5

With potential vaccine approval looming, Governor Pritzker warns of long process

□ LaSalle, Bureau among 50 counties to get the first distributions

By JERRY NOWICKI
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Health officials gave an update on the state’s COVID-19 vaccine plan Dec. 4 with potential federal approval anticipated as early as this week.

Gov. JB Pritzker said the state still expects to get 109,000 doses to be initially distributed in the 50 counties with the highest per capita death rates, but it will be several months until there is an adequate number of vaccine doses available for the general population.

That means it’s just as important as ever to maintain social distance, wear face coverings, avoid large gatherings and get a flu shot, according to Pritzker and Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike.

The first vaccine that could be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration by Dec. 10 is manufactured by the drug company Pfizer. It requires an initial dose, then another three to four weeks later. Pritzker said the first shipment could arrive in two weeks. Another vaccine from the drug company Moderna could get approval one week following the Pfizer vaccine.

The initial recipients will be health care workers and long-term care residents. Pritzker said 655,000 people in Illinois qualify as frontline health care workers – 162,000 in Chicago and 493,000 outside of Chicago. Approximately 110,000 adults statewide live in congregate care settings, he said.

After that group will be “other essential workers and persons at higher risks of severe COVID-19 illness, including persons 65 years of age and older,” according to the state’s vaccine plan.



The initial recipients of the COVID-19 vaccine will be health care workers and long-term care residents.

Then it will be “critical populations” as defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or ACIP. Then the general population can receive the vaccine.

“In other words, this will not be a quick process. With the two-dose timeline, no single person will be fully vaccinated even by Christmas, and it will likely be months before people with low risk factors for COVID-19 see their first dose,” Pritzker said. “But the very fact that we have this timeline is the result of incredible private sector innovation and long standing public investment in scientific research.”

Pritzker said the first shipment, if indeed it includes 109,000 doses, would be divided into 23,000 doses directly to Chicago and 86,000 to be distributed to the rest of the state.

It also must be kept at 70 degrees below zero Celsius, so the state has purchased 20 ultra-cold freezers, according to Ezike. She said IDPH will receive the initial shipment directly from the CDC and will store it at the strategic national stockpile site.

“With the two-dose timeline, no single person will be fully vaccinated even by Christmas, and it will likely be months before people with low risk factors for COVID-19 see their first dose.”

—Gov. Pritzker

IDPH has identified 10 hospitals to serve as regional distribution sites to local health departments in the first 50 counties to receive the vaccine. Those hospitals will work with local hospitals to identify and vaccinate the first recipients.

Ezike also noted there is a federal partnership between Walgreens and CVS pharmacies to vaccinate long-term care residents, and all but five of the state’s long-term care facilities have signed up to be part of the program thus far. The state will work to register the final five, she said.

See Vaccine, Page A5

Lawmakers seek additional hearings into LaSalle Veterans’ Home outbreak

By SARAH MANSUR
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Republican lawmakers on Nov. 30 renewed calls for a House Veterans’ Affairs Committee hearing into the cause of a coronavirus outbreak at the state-run veterans’ home in LaSalle where about 20 percent of the residents have died of COVID-19 related illnesses.

Reps. Randy Frese, R-Paloma, David Welter, R-Morris, and Dan Swanson, R-Alpha, held a virtual news conference during which they demanded House members be included in a future hearing about the LaSalle Veterans’ Home outbreak.

The Illinois House Republicans’ news conference comes about a week after the state Senate Veterans Affairs Committee held a hearing into the outbreak that began on Nov. 1, and resulted in the deaths of at least 28 residents. There are 100 residents currently at the home.

Since the beginning of the outbreak, the veterans home has reported a total of 106 residents and 96 employees testing positive with COVID-19. As of Friday, 38 residents and 76 staff had recovered from the virus.

Sen. Paul Schimpf, R-Waterloo, a member of the Senate Veteran Affairs Committee, and Sen. Sue Rezin, R-Morris, whose district includes the LaSalle home, also called for the next hearing into the LaSalle facility to be scheduled soon.

Schimpf and Rezin sent a letter to the committee’s chairman, Sen. Tom Cullerton, D-Villa Park, requesting he “set the next hearing date within the next few weeks.”

In an email, Cullerton said the senators did not reach out to him directly and he was “disheartened that I had to learn about their concerns from the press.”

Cullerton said the next hearing date has not yet been set, but he is working with

lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to plan the next meeting.

“The most important thing is to get answers as to why so many innocent lives have been lost and ensure no more people suffer the pain these people and their families have,” Cullerton said in the email.

Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Director Linda Chapa LaVia previously announced the acting inspector general from the Illinois Department of Human Services would conduct an independent investigation into the LaSalle outbreak.

Gov. JB Pritzker said he supported the independent investigation.



“If there’s any failure of procedure or wrongdoing, then that should be brought to the forefront and people should be held accountable,” Pritzker said.

The IDVA also released two reports recently from two separate on-site visits at the LaSalle home — the first conducted by an official from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on Nov. 12, and the other by an official from the Illinois Department of Public Health on Nov. 17.

The visit reports found issues that required immediate change, including replacing all non-alcohol-based hand sanitizers with alcohol-based sanitizers, performing COVID-19 tests for residents and staff twice weekly rather than once per week, and requiring staff to follow strict personal protective equipment guidelines.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Books from Santa at Graves-Hume Library

◆ *Drive-thru event takes place Dec. 12 in library parking lot*

MENDOTA - Santa Claus is coming to Mendota! The Graves-Hume Public Library will host a "Drive Thru Grab n Take" event for children on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

All members of the community are invited to bring their children and drive through the library's parking lot where each child in the vehicle will receive a free gift bag that includes an Usborne book and a craft. In addition, the Optimist Club will serve free hot dogs for all who come. No library card is required; the event is open to the public. To ensure the safety of event attendees and library staff, everyone is asked to please stay in their car and wear a mask.

Mrs. Claus is concerned about keeping Santa healthy, so this year Santa will be waving at everyone from afar. But be sure to bring a letter for Santa. Please include a full name and address for a return letter from Santa. "We are so happy to have Santa coming to the library," said Emily Kofoed, library director. "We know he's busy this time

of year, so we are grateful that he made time to visit Mendota. We hope that everyone will stop by for the festivities."

The Usborne books were received through donations from the community, which was organized by Jennifer Bast and Kristin Decker in partnership with Graves-Hume Public Library. During the month of September, Bast and Decker asked community members and organizations to donate monetary gifts. The fundraiser allowed over 390 books to be purchased for local children.

The crafts were donated by the Friends of the Library, which is a separate, charitable entity that supports the library in financial donations for books and programs not in the library's budget.

The library asks that everyone please stay in their vehicle and wear a mask for the duration of the "Drive Thru Grab n Take" on Dec. 12. Enter the library's parking lot using the east entrance from East Main Street and follow the signs.

All members of the community are invited. Gift bags will only be given to children present in vehicles.



Christmas in Sublette

Although the official Sublette Christmas in the Village was canceled, the Christmas spirit was still in the air on Dec. 4, as Santa rode into town on a Sublette Fire Department engine and spread good tidings throughout town. Santa's first stop was in downtown Sublette. He stopped at the village's Christmas tree, which was decorated on both sides by Christmas trees sponsored and decorated by Sublette businesses. Santa presented a present to Acting Sublette Village President John Stenzel, above. The gift was made by Mrs. Claus, which was a Christmas Walk ornament that included a mask and gloves. Residents are encouraged to vote for their favorite Sublette business Christmas tree on the Sublette 365 Facebook page. Voting is available through Dec. 25. Just "Like" your favorite tree and the tree with the most "Likes" will be the winner. (Reporter photos by Tonja Greenfield)



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LOCAL AND AREA

St. Margaret's and IVCH move forward with integration planning

SPRING VALLEY – St. Margaret's Health in Spring Valley, a member of SMP Health System, and Illinois Valley Community Hospital (IVCH) in Peru received approval on their proposed affiliation from the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board (IHFSRB) on Nov. 1. With this authorization from the state, St. Margaret's and IVCH have commenced their integration planning process, which includes the creation of a new board of directors.

The board will provide oversight and guidance to the newly combined integrated health system that will also be known as St. Margaret's Health. After the affiliation is complete, IVCH will be known as St. Margaret's Health - Peru. St. Margaret's Hospital will be known as St. Margaret's Health - Spring Valley.

"We are honored to have such dedicated community leaders represented on the Board of Directors of St. Margaret's Health," said Aaron K. Alton, President & CEO SMP Health System. "Their leadership will be invaluable as our hospitals move forward together to care for communities across the Illinois Valley."

The following members were appointed to the new St. Margaret's Health Board of Directors by the SMP Health

System Board of Directors: Aaron Alton, President & CEO, SMP Health System; Jim Clinard, Principal, Director of Engineering, Chamlin & Associates;

Chris Cyr, President, Cyr Financial Wealth Advisors; Terry Judd, Board Member, SMP Health System & SMP Health Ministry; Jim Loveland, Plant Manager, Maze Nails;

John McCormick, President & CEO, Eureka Savings Bank;

Joyce McCullough, President, Miller Group Media;

Tim Muntz, President & CEO, St. Margaret's Health; Kris Paul, Faculty (retired), Illinois Valley Community College/Lincoln College;

Dave Sickley, Principal, D.J. Sickley Construction Company;

Rick Twanow, MD, Family Physician (retired), St. Margaret's Health.

The Board members' new terms will take effect Jan. 1, 2021. St. Margaret's and IVCH intend to finalize their affiliation by the end of this year. Once the affiliation is complete, the combined entities will conduct a thorough assessment of facilities, the services provided and the needs of the community. It is anticipated that the full integration of the two organizations will take one to two years.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Mendota student earns scholarship

WHITEWATER, Wis. – Mia Artman of Mendota, a music major at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, is among the scholarship recipients receiving financial awards for the 2020-21 academic year. Artman won a Chancellor Scholars.

"Our scholarship winners represent the very best in academic, co-curricular and service excellence across all our colleges and depart-

ments," said Greg Rutzen, president of the UW-Whitewater Foundation. "We're grateful to the many people and organizations, past and present, who generously donated funds to make the awards a reality. Some scholarships were endowed more than 80 years ago, leaving a lasting legacy."

The application period for next year is now open. Visit www.uw.edu/scholarships.

Free COVID-19 testing at Peru Airport, Dec. 12-13

PERU – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has several mobile testing teams that are dispatched to various locations around the state each week to provide COVID-19 testing. Anyone can be tested, regardless of symptoms or immigration status. There is no cost to the individual for testing, but they should bring their insurance card if they have one. However, insurance is not required.

Locally, free testing will be conducted at the Peru Airport, 4251 Ed Urban Dr. on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12-13 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Specimens will be collected using a simple nasal swab. Drive-through and walk-up testing are both available at most locations. Results will be given by phone in 4-7 days.

Driver services facilities to remain closed until Jan. 4

◆ Driver's licenses & ID expirations extended

SPRINGFIELD - Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has announced that driver services facilities statewide will remain closed for in-person transactions until Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. The public is also reminded that expirations for driver's licenses and ID cards have been extended until June 1, 2021.

Expanded online services

White has expanded online services for the public, which they can take advantage of by visiting www.cyberdriveillinois.com. Some of the online services include:

- Renewing a license plate sticker;
- Renewing a valid driver's license for qualifying drivers;
- Renewing a valid ID card for those age 22-64 (seniors 65 and older have

free, non-expiring IDs);

- Obtaining a driver record abstract;

- Filing Business Services documents, such as incorporations and annual reports; and

- Customers with issues involving administrative hearings may contact adminhearings@ilsos.gov.

Select facilities open for new drivers ONLY

In addition, White announced that a number of facilities will be open for new drivers ONLY including Princeton-225 Backbone Road East, DeKalb-1360 Oakwood St., and Rockford-4734 Baxter Road. These facilities will operate

How the Betty Crocker cookbook changed the way America cooks

◆ Free virtual program scheduled for Dec. 19

LASALLE - Long before Martha Stewart, there was Betty Crocker. Take a look back at the impact of the Betty Crocker Cookbook when the LaSalle Public Library virtually hosts historian Leslie Goddard with her presentation, "Betty Crocker and Her Cookbook That Changed How America Cooks." The program will take place on Saturday, Dec. 19 beginning at 2 p.m.

In 1950, Betty Crocker's Picture Cook Book hit shelves with sales that rivaled that of the Bible. To date, the classic cookbook has sold over 75 million copies. Created in 1921, by a flour company, Betty Crocker became the most famous and the most trusted advisor to American cooks. In this fun, illustrated lecture, Goddard looks at how Betty Crocker was invented, why her cookbook has endured, and what makes her so iconic.

Goddard, a scholar and an award-winning actress, has presented history programs for over 10 years. She holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University specializing in American studies and U.S. history and a Master's degree in theater. A former museum director, she is the author of two books on history and now works full-time as an author and public speaker. Her programs have been presented for museums, libraries, senior centers, clubs and organizations nationwide.

This program is free and open to the public. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Register by going to <https://bit.ly/37cvZ8J>. If you prefer to connect to the program using an iPad or smartphone rather than a computer, need more information or have questions, please contact Rachael Blomquist, Digital Content Librarian, at rblomquist@lasalle.lib.il.us or call the library at (815) 223-2341.

under normal hours.

Select facilities open for CDL applicants ONLY

Several CDL facilities will also remain open for CDL written and road exams including Princeton-225 Backbone Road East, DeKalb-1360 Oakwood St., and Rockford-4734 Baxter Road. CDL driving tests are by appointment only by calling (217) 785-3013.

"Commercial truck drivers provide essential services by ensuring goods can be transported safely and efficiently throughout the state and country during this pandemic," White said.

Drive-thru services for license plate stickers

Lastly, White again reminded the public that sev-

en facilities will continue

offering drive-thru services for license plate sticker transactions ONLY. These facilities were selected due to the configuration of the buildings that allowed for drive-through transactions. The seven drive-through facilities are: Chicago North, 5401 N. Elston Ave.; Chicago South, 9901 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.; Chicago West, 5301 W. Lexington St.; Danville/Tilton, #5 Southgate; Macomb, 466 Deer Road; Rockford-Central, 3720 E. State St.; and Springfield, Dirksen 2701 S. Dirksen Parkway.

Expanded online renewal

See DRIVER, Page A4

CARL'S QUIZ

Where did the tradition of making gingerbread houses start?
Bonus question: When?

The answer to last week's quiz is: The country having the most forest land is Russia with over 8 million square kilometers. Second is Canada at just under 5 million, followed closely by Brazil. The U.S. comes in fourth.

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

See Local News online at

WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM

Mendota Weather

Dec. 9, 2020

Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday
Mostly Sunny
High: 50 Low: 30

Thursday
Partly Cloudy
High: 49 Low: 36

Friday
Scattered Rain
High: 48 Low: 37

Saturday
Rain & Snow Possible
High: 43 Low: 33

Sunday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 42 Low: 30

Monday
Partly Cloudy
High: 41 Low: 31

Tuesday
Cloudy
High: 39 Low: 27

In-Depth Forecast

Wednesday we will see mostly sunny skies with a high temperature of 50°, humidity of 60%. West southwest wind 7 to 11 mph. The record high temperature for Wednesday is 58° set in 1966. Expect clear skies Wednesday night with an overnight low of 30°. West southwest wind 3 to 7 mph. The wind chill for Wednesday night could reach 27°. The record low for Wednesday night is -11° set in 1995.

Last Week's Local Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Monday	32	22	38/21	0.00"
Tuesday	34	19	37/21	0.00"
Wednesday	44	21	36/20	0.00"
Thursday	46	24	36/20	0.00"
Friday	46	28	35/19	0.00"
Saturday	43	24	35/19	0.00"
Sunday	40	32	35/19	0.00"

Regional Cities

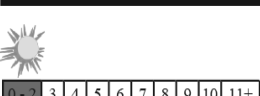
	Wednesday	Thursday
City	Hi/Lo Wx	Hi/Lo Wx
Aurora	51/31 s	50/36 pc
Champaign	52/32 s	54/38 pc
Chicago	51/35 s	48/39 pc
Freeport	50/28 s	47/31 pc
Joliet	52/31 s	51/37 pc
Moline	53/31 s	52/36 pc
Peoria	53/32 s	54/39 pc
Rockford	51/30 s	49/35 pc
Springfield	54/33 s	55/40 pc

Data as reported from Peru, Ill.

Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
New 12/14	Wednesday	7:11 a.m.	4:26 p.m.	12:55 a.m.	1:29 p.m.	Full 12/29
	Thursday	7:12 a.m.	4:26 p.m.	2:08 a.m.	1:57 p.m.	
	Friday	7:13 a.m.	4:26 p.m.	3:23 a.m.	2:27 p.m.	
	Saturday	7:14 a.m.	4:26 p.m.	4:40 a.m.	3:02 p.m.	
First 12/21	Sunday	7:14 a.m.	4:26 p.m.	5:58 a.m.	3:43 p.m.	Last 1/6
	Monday	7:15 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	7:14 a.m.	4:32 p.m.	
	Tuesday	7:16 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	8:23 a.m.	5:30 p.m.	

Local UV Index



UV Index

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

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

National Weather Summary This Week



The Northeast will see partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 50 in Warsaw, Ill. The Southeast will experience clear skies with the highest temperature of 70 in Key West, Fla. The central United States will see clear skies with the highest temperature of 72 in Laredo, Texas. In the Northwest there will be partly cloudy skies with isolated rain, highest temperature of 61 in Cheyenne, Wyo. The Southwest will see partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 77 in Palm Springs, Calif.

Weather Trivia

When is the Pacific typhoon season?

Answers: There is none. Typhoons can occur any time during the year.

Weather History

Dec. 9, 1987 - The fifth storm in nine days kept the northwestern United States wet and windy. Winds along the coast of Washington gusted to 75 mph at Oceans Shores and the northern and central coastal mountains of Oregon were drenched with three inches of rain in 10 hours.

Dec. 10, 1989 - Heavy snow fell across the northern and central mountains of Colorado, with 24 inches reported at Steamboat Springs. Six to 12 inches of snow fell in the Denver and Boulder areas, delaying plane flights and snarling traffic.

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OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

Cynthia S. Burkart

PRINCETON - Cynthia Sue Burkart, 61, of Princeton is now cheering for the Cubs in Heaven. She passed away Nov. 30, 2020 at Advocate General Lutheran Hospital in Park Ridge.

Graveside services were held next to her parents in Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota at 11 a.m. on Dec. 5 with officiant Linda Dinges. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota assisted the family with arrangements.

Cindy was born July 28, 1959 in Mendota to Elmer and Henrietta (Schmitz) Burkart. She shared her birthday with her father.

Survivors include three siblings, Mary Becker of Michigan, Robert (Sandy) Burkart of Florida and Bonnie Barkman of Illinois; 12 nieces and nephews; 17 great-nieces and nephews; nine great-great nieces and nephews; and her Gateway Services family who cared for Cindy for many years.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters Alice Salmon and Jeanette Flint; one niece; and her foster parents, Art and Helen Osman of Princeton.

Cindy loved the Chicago Cubs and Bulls, dancing, crafts, music, church, eating out, babies, movies, rings, watches, the Green Bay Packers and everyone she met. Her heart was as big as her bear hugs. 2020 was a very difficult year for Cindy as her health declined and she moved from her Gateway Services home in Princeton to the Park Ridge Care Center. She received loving care from the staff at both facilities.

Memorials in Cindy's memory may be directed to Gateway Services in Princeton, which does so much for so many. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Carol A. Abramson

PROPHETSTOWN - Carol A. Abramson, 81, of Prophetstown died Nov. 29, 2020 at Allure of Prophetstown.

A private family funeral service was held at the Bosma-Gibson Funeral Home in Prophetstown with Rich Criss officiating. A graveside service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 8 at the Chapel Hill Gardens West Cemetery in Oakbrook Terrace.

Carol was born May 23, 1939 in Chicago to Edward Frank and Marie B. (Houser) Sedivec. She married Jack Abramson on Feb. 9, 1963 in Chicago. He preceded her in death on June 7, 1984.

Survivors include one daughter, Jennifer (Gene) Sleeman of Prophetstown; one brother, Dale (Mary Lynn) Sedivec of Concord, N.C.; and a very special friend, Mary Panosh of Villa Park.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Carol received a Bachelor of Arts degree from North Central College in Naperville. Shortly after graduating from college, she became a teacher in the Downers Grove area and taught 3rd grade for 10 years. She became a homemaker and with her keen eye for interior design, she did a first-rate job decorating her home. Carol loved and enjoyed riding horses; she also trained dogs.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be directed to the ASPCA.

To send online condolences, go to www.bosmagibson.com.



Marjorie A. Beck

MENDOTA-Marjorie A. Beck, 82, of Mendota passed away Dec. 5, 2020 at OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Ottawa.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at Troy Grove Cemetery with Rev. Susan Presley officiating. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is handling arrangements.

Marjorie was born July 17, 1938 in Aurora to Kenneth and Olive (Frale) Davis. She married Arthur J. Beck on Sept. 6, 1958 in Plainfield.

Survivors include her husband of Mendota; one daughter, Barbara (John) Barnewolt of Brimfield; one son, Kenneth (Charli) Beck of Mendota; one brother, Jerry (Cheri) Davis of Sandwich; and two grandsons, Zachary and Kelby Barnewolt.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Richard Davis; and several family dogs.

Marjorie's hobbies and interests included embroidery, traveling, spending time at her and her husband's trailer in Florida and baking chocolate chip cookies for the family and friends who were fortunate to enjoy them. She also enjoyed neighbors and friends stopping by the farm for a cup of coffee and cookies from her round tins.

Memorials may be directed to LaSalle County Farm Bureau AG in the Classroom, 4201 N. Columbus St. Ottawa, IL 61350 or First Presbyterian Church, Mendota.



Joan E. Schubert

NAPERVILLE - Joan E. Schubert, 86, of Naperville passed away Dec. 2, 2020.

A private burial will be held at a future date.

Joan was born July 25, 1934 in Waukegan to Roy Sr. and Grace Olson. She married Steve Schubert and they celebrated 50 years of marriage prior to his passing in 2007.

Survivors include three children, Eric (Felicia), Lisa (Dave) Newman and Jane Birkenbeuel; and six grandchildren, Dominic and Isabelle, Greg and Erin, Kat and Alex (father, Rick Birkenbeuel).

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; one brother, Roy; and her in-laws, Mike and Rosalind Schubert.

Joan received her Associate's degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Mo. and her Bachelor's degree in education from the University of Illinois. At U of I, she met the love of her life, Steve Schubert. She was a loving and supportive partner, mother and treasured friend to so many. She was generous with her time and dedicated many hours to volunteer roles in her church, schools and communities in which she lived. Combining her passion for education and art, she was instrumental in bringing the Picture Lady Program to Mendota elementary schools, which brought fine art to life for students. Joan was also the first woman to serve on the district elementary school board in Mendota. When Steve retired in 1989, they moved from Mendota to Wimberley, Texas, where she continued her passion for art and painting. She was a member of the Wimberley Valley Art League and enjoyed painting scenes from some of their favorite places in their travels abroad. After Steve's death, Joan moved back to Illinois to be closer to family. She will always be remembered for how she lived each day with a generous heart, kindness and grace.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the organization of your choosing or simply be intentional to offer acts of kindness to others each day; all are appreciated.

For more information, please visit www.friedrich-jones.com or call (630) 355-0213.



Arlene C. Schmidt

MENDOTA-Arlene C. Schmidt, 87, of Mendota passed away Dec. 6, 2020 at Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center, Franklin Grove.

A public graveside service was held at 11 a.m. on Dec. 9 at Restland Memorial Gardens with Rev. Mary Bohall officiating. Social distancing was observed and masks encouraged. Pallbearers were her grandchildren, Chris Happ, Jake Walter, Michael Happ, Emily Boehringer, Megan Schmidt and Sarah Ramirez. Wasmer Funeral Home was privileged to assist the family.

Arlene was born Oct. 7, 1933 in LaSalle to Nelson and Myrtle (Roe) Crane.

Survivors include two daughters, Karen (Joe) Happ of Mendota and Cathy (Chris) Walter Faletto of Mendota; one son, Bob Schmidt of Ottawa; seven grandchildren, Christopher (Janell) Happ, Jacob (Elizabeth) Walter, Cory (Jenae) Walter, Megan Schmidt, Emily (Billy) Boehringer, Sarah (Edgar) Ramirez, and Michael Happ; five great-grandchildren, Henry, Morgan and William Happ, J.R. Walter, and Addie Boehringer; one sister, Jean Brueggeman of Menomonee Falls, Wis.; and one sister-in-law, Marian Crane of Mendota.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a great-grandson, Ayden Walter; three brothers, Harold Crane, Nelson Crane Jr. and Gilbert Crane; and three sisters, Margaret Vavra, Dorothy Raasch and Roberta Greyer.

Arlene graduated from Mendota High School in 1951. During her work career, she was employed as a secretary bookkeeper for Prescott Brothers and Mendota Farmer's Coop. She was involved in many organizations through her life including a lifelong member of First United Methodist Church, Jr. Women's Club, Mendota Kanteen, Alice Circle, Campfire Girls, Mendota Golf Club, and Mendota Elks Lodge 1212. She also volunteered as a Tri County Fair Superintendent, a Cub Scout Leader, and for over 15 years was a "Pink Lady" at Mendota Community Hospital/OSF Saint Paul.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Services, I.V.A.R. or First United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.



Martin R. Weber

SYCAMORE - Martin R. Weber, 68, of Sycamore died Nov. 14, 2020 at NW Medicine-Kishwaukee Hospital.

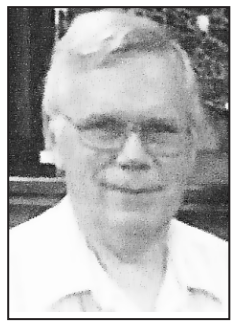
Services will be private at a later date.

Martin was born Dec. 27, 1951 in Mendota to Robert J. and Dolores (Becker) Weber. He married Darlene E. Singleton on June 17, 1994. She preceded him in death.

Survivors include his children, Lisa (Ryan) Winters, Amanda Hayward and Jennifer Weber; three step children, Aaron (Erica) Peppers, Bryan Peppers and Angela (Tony) Alvarado; 17 grandchildren; his girlfriend, Linda Fay; numerous nieces and nephews; and seven siblings, Donald (Elaine) Weber of Montgomery, Janet (Ronald) Clemmons of Oregon, Robert (Maureen) Weber of Sublette, Roberta (Fred) Pohl of Sublette, Richard (Wanda) Weber of Mendota, Ronald (Jackie) Weber of Sublette and Catherine (Larry) Ellis of Sublette.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife.

Martin worked for Kelmscott in Aurora for over 30 years. He loved to attend car shows and build model cars. He enjoyed his classic Chevelle and spending time with his family.



Driver

Continued from Page A3

In an effort to reduce future facility visits for in-person service, White has expanded online renewals for driver's licenses and ID cards. Not everyone qualifies, particularly those who are required to pass a written


or road test. For qualifying drivers, if the driver's license or ID card expired between Feb. 1, 2020, through Jan. 31, 2021, the individual will receive a letter this month with a unique PIN needed to renew online. If the driver's license or ID card expires after Feb. 1, 2021, the PIN letter

will arrive approximately 90 days before the expiration date. For more information on determining whether an individual qualifies for online renewal, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com and click on "Read more on how to renew your driver's license or ID card online" near the

top of the main page.

Thousands of customers have already taken advantage of the expanded driver's license and ID card online renewal program, which results in fewer customers waiting in person at driver services facilities once they reopen.

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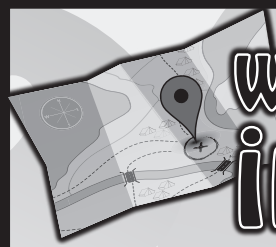
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Where is it... in Mendota?



HOW TO ENTER:

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

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Chris Says...

Chris Klein



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LOCAL AND AREA

ComEd

Continued from Page A1

regulates utilities including ComEd, can prevent a utility from recovering costs that the commission finds are not prudent or reasonable.

Two years later, the General Assembly passed a related law that overruled the Illinois Commerce Commission's adverse regulatory decisions against ComEd and made changes to the formula rate that further diminished the commission's oversight.

ComEd is also the focus of an ongoing federal investigation that revealed the company engaged in a bribery scheme, from 2011 to 2019, seeking to influence House Speaker Michael Madigan to pass favorable legislation, including EIMA and the Future Energy Jobs Act, which passed in 2016.

Federal prosecutors in Chicago entered into a deferred prosecution agreement with ComEd this summer that allows the company to avoid being prosecuted for crimes in exchange for paying a \$200 million fine and agreeing to cooperate in the federal probe.

Last month, four people — including former ComEd CEO Anne Pramaggiore and former ComEd executive turned lobbyist John Hooker — were indicted on charges of bribing Madigan by awarding no-work jobs, internships and contracts to Madigan associates in order to win his favor for legislation benefitting the company. Madigan has not been charged, and he denies any wrongdoing.

The PIRG report, released on Dec. 1, outlines how ComEd increased its base rate — or the value of its assets used to calculate the utility's level of return — by about \$5.1 billion, from \$6.2 billion in 2011 to \$11.4 billion in 2019.

ComEd's profits have increased by 47 percent between 2011 and 2019, according to the report, as customers saw a 37 percent increase in the company's delivery services over the same time period.

During the six years after the follow-up legislation to EIMA passed, ComEd's profits increased by \$1 billion, compared to its profits over each of the two previous six-year periods going back

"We think very clearly that there has been a harm that consumers are paying much more than they would have otherwise for their delivery service, and that we were promised all types of customer benefits from the law, and those have fallen short."

—Abe Scarr, PIRG

to 2001, according to the report.

Abe Scarr, director of the Illinois PIRG and coauthor of the report, said the information in the report should dispel the company's claim that while politicians may have acted corruptly to secure the legislation, the legislation itself does not harm consumers.

"We think very clearly that there has been a harm that consumers are paying much more than they would have otherwise for their delivery service, and that we were promised all types of customer benefits from the law, and those have fallen short," Scarr said. "In the wake of all this, not only should we allow the federal prosecutors in the legal system to work its way through the process, but legislators need to take action and right some of these wrongs from the past decade because customers could be overpaying for years to come."

Although ComEd customers have seen their utility bills remain relatively flat in the past decade, Scarr said this is because costs on the supply side have decreased and distribution costs have increased.

"But we think that the distribution side shouldn't have gone up as much and customers should have seen more savings in their bills than they have," he said.

ComEd serves 4 million customers across northern Illinois, according to the company's website. It's service territory borders Iroquois County to the south, the Wisconsin border to the north, the Iowa border to the west and the Indiana border to the east.

The 111-page report ex-

plains how the 2011 and 2013 energy laws altered the existing process, which was in place for nearly a century, used by the Illinois Commerce Commission to set a utility's electricity rates and determine the investment costs the company can recover.

"As part of the traditional rate case process, the Commission would set the return on equity, the profit margin applied to the rate base, after evaluating the risk profile of the company. Under EIMA's formula rates, the Commission has no such authority," the report states.

The formula rates established by EIMA "strips the Commission of the tools and mechanisms traditionally used to investigate and hold utilities accountable in an effort to promote the public interest," according to the report.

Scarr said the two energy laws have allowed ComEd to recover almost all of its roughly \$5 billion in investments. In fact, only \$23 million of that amount was disallowed, or determined it should not be charged to customers, by the Illinois Commerce Commission since 2011.

"That's why we call it a profit machine," Scarr said. "Because they spend the money and put it through this formula, and out comes their guaranteed revenue and their guaranteed profits."

In an emailed statement, a ComEd spokesperson denied that the energy laws harmed consumers or that they changed the way ComEd can recover its investment costs.

"The Deferred Prosecution Agreement does not contain any allegations that consumers were harmed by legislation passed in Illinois. In fact, the bipartisan legislation that was passed — EIMA and (Future Energy Jobs Act in 2016) — resulted in substantial benefits for ComEd's customers, including reliability that has improved more than 70 percent since 2012 to record levels," the statement from Shannon Breymaier, ComEd communications director, read in part. "The standards for which investments ComEd can recover today are the same as they were before EIMA created the formula rate."

Continued from Page A1

The Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange is the web-based immunization record sharing application that will log the vaccination records, Ezike said.

"(The system) allows both public and private health care providers to share immunization records of Illinois residents with other physicians and public health officials statewide," she said.

Pritzker said ACIP is considering how to best distribute the vaccine in at-risk communities, and he noted, "we also know that for many reasons, Black and brown Americans have disproportionately suffered deaths from COVID-19 in their communities."

"ACIP is currently considering specific allocations of the vaccine before expanding to the remainder of the population, and Illinois will account for their expert recommendation in the next

Vaccine

tiers of distribution with a focused eye on equity," he said.

Counties and Hospitals

Initial shipments of the COVID-19 vaccine will be distributed to 10 Regional Hospital Coordinating Centers, which will then coordinate distribution to the 50 counties with the highest per capita death rates for the virus.

The medical centers include: Rockford Memorial Hospital in Rockford-4,875 initial doses; OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria-5,850 initial doses; St. John's Hospital in Springfield-1,950 initial doses; Memorial Hospital in Belleville-6,825 initial doses; SIH Memorial Hospital in Carbondale-2,925 initial doses; Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana-3,900 initial doses; Advocate Christ Hospital and Medical Center in Oak Lawn-8,775 initial doses; Loyola University Medical Center in May-

wood-16,575 initial doses; Advocate Sherman Hospital in Elgin-7,800 initial doses; Northshore-Highland Park Hospital in Highland Park-27,300 initial doses.

The counties include: Greene, Wayne, Carroll, Ford, Mason, Union, Pike, Clay, Jefferson, Clinton, Whiteside, Fayette, Marion, Monroe, Cass, Bureau, Clark, Macon, Warren, LaSalle, Williamson, Richland, Coles, Perry, Morgan, Knox, McDonough, Shelby, Suburban Cook, Jasper, Jersey, Saline, Christian, Iroquois, Saint Clair, Dewitt, Kankakee, Rock Island, Madison, Lake, Winnebago, Kane, Randolph, DuPage, Will, Ogle, Jo Daviess, Tazewell, Cumberland, Stark.

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

Home

Continued from Page A1

The U.S. VA official's report found specific examples of staff violating PPE protocols, such as staff wearing masks below their chins. That report also noted that staff who eventually tested positive had attended a Halloween party.

When Chapa LaVia was asked about the staff attending a Halloween party during the hearing, she said that could not be substantiated and the information was based on "word of mouth."

IDVA Chief of Staff Anthony Kolbeck revealed that five employees at LaSalle continued to work at the home after being notified they tested positive, although they worked with residents who also already had tested positive.

Members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, including Frese and Swanson, initially requested a hearing into the COVID-19 outbreak at LaSalle on Nov. 10, through a letter sent to Rep. Stephanie Kifowit, D-Oswego, who chairs the committee.

According to Frese, members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee should have been allowed to par-

"The most important thing is to get answers as to why so many innocent lives have been lost and ensure no more people suffer the pain these people and their families have."

—Sen. Tom Cullerton

ticipate in the Senate committee's hearing, but were not invited.

"We ask, at the very least, that we be part of the Senate hearing that may be coming up to follow up the one that was already held," Frese said.

While the Senate has approved procedures for conducting virtual hearings, the House has not. This means any House committee meeting must take place in-person at the Capitol, which the General Assembly has avoided due to the ongoing pandemic.

Welter, whose district

includes the LaSalle Veterans Home, said members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee need a hearing "to find out what protocols were missed, what were dropped, and if there was additional help that they asked from the state that may not have been received."

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Nancy McDonnell
Cybersecurity instructor

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12072020

Petitions must be filed from Dec. 14-21 for IVCC Board

OGLESBY — The period for filing nomination petitions for the April Illinois Valley Community College board of trustees election is Dec. 14-21.

Nominations for two open seats will be accepted 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, Dec. 14-18 and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21 in the President's Office, Room C301. The President's Office will be open Dec. 21 while all other college offices are closed.

Open seats in the April 6 election are currently held by Everett Solon of Streator and Dr. Maureen Rebholz of Peru.

The last day to file an objection to any nominating petition for the District 513 consolidated board election for the counties of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Marshall, Grundy, Livingston, Lee and DeKalb is Tuesday, Dec. 29.

IVCC is closed Dec. 19 through Jan. 3. Any person wishing to file an objection between Dec. 22 and 29 can contact board secretary Judy Day at judy_day@ivcc.edu and set up a time to file the objection.

OPINION



Award-winning Newspaper IPA/NINA
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Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writer or artist. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Reporter management or staff.

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

The struggle for new leadership in Illinois, and what to do with it

By Jim Nowlan

Politically, Illinois House Speaker and state Democratic Party Chairman Mike Madigan is a dead man walking. The recent ComEd admissions of a decade of bribery killed him.

And so, the struggle for new leadership is underway, mostly behind the scenes for the moment.

Madigan has more or less ruled the Legislature for four decades, so others are unpracticed at seeking and providing leadership.

Madigan was a master at the care and feeding of his members, yet his personal objectives seemed to be those of simply amassing and holding power, staying at the helm. This, rather than spending that power in behalf of important policy objectives, such as creating a stable, balanced fiscal system.

Indeed, he was scrupulous about protecting his members from having to make tough votes, which is one reason Illinois is now in a world of hurt, after decades of deficit spending. For Madigan, the needs of politics always trumped those of policy.

But it's tough to put policy ahead of politics. Arguably the three most courageous governors in our state's history were Thomas Ford (1842-1846), John Peter Altgeld (1893-1897) and Richard Ogilvie (1969-1972) — each lasted but one term. (See Robert Howard's "Mostly Good and Competent Men: Illinois Governors," for the detail.)

Winston Churchill didn't stop Hitler by himself in 1940. Churchill and the English people did. Leaders require, obviously, courageous followers. Yet, for his leadership, the English turned Churchill out of office as World War II ended. They respected their leader, but they didn't have to like the sacrifices he asked of them.

The next leader of the Illinois House will require two or more terms, if successful, to build anything close to power. In the meantime, she or he will need courageous followers.

Illinois offers its leaders incredible strengths. Our combined transportation networks of interstates, railroads, air and water conveyance are the envy of the nation. Our top universities in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Evanston are world powerhouses of science and engineering. We have a high percentage of our population with college degrees. And as the commercial and financial hub of the Midwest, our location in the middle of the nation puts us in a sweet spot for economic activity.

Yet, Illinois is today, you might say, the "sick man" in the room, which others seek to move away from, literally, or avoid. This is largely because on taxes and spending Illinois has been kicking the can down the road for decades. As a result, we now have huge debts and unfunded pension costs that stifle our capacity to fix problems. We are at a "T" in the road. Add to that our reputation for corruption, which dampens interest in setting up shop in our state.

Illinois desperately needs transformative leadership — and followership. That's a tall order. After all, a new speaker will be scrambling to learn the ropes, groping her or his way toward influence with colleagues.

If Illinois turns one direction in the road at the T, we simply continue kicking the deficit-spending can down the highway, to further decline. If lawmakers turn the opposite way, we balance our budget, cut pension costs (for pension discussion, search the topic at jimnowlan.com), and recast our struggling post-high school education system into the best in the nation, as it was so considered as recently as 2000 by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.

I found Gov. JB Pritzker's "fair tax" lacking for several reasons, and not because it raised taxes, but because it did not raise enough revenue, necessary at least in the short term.

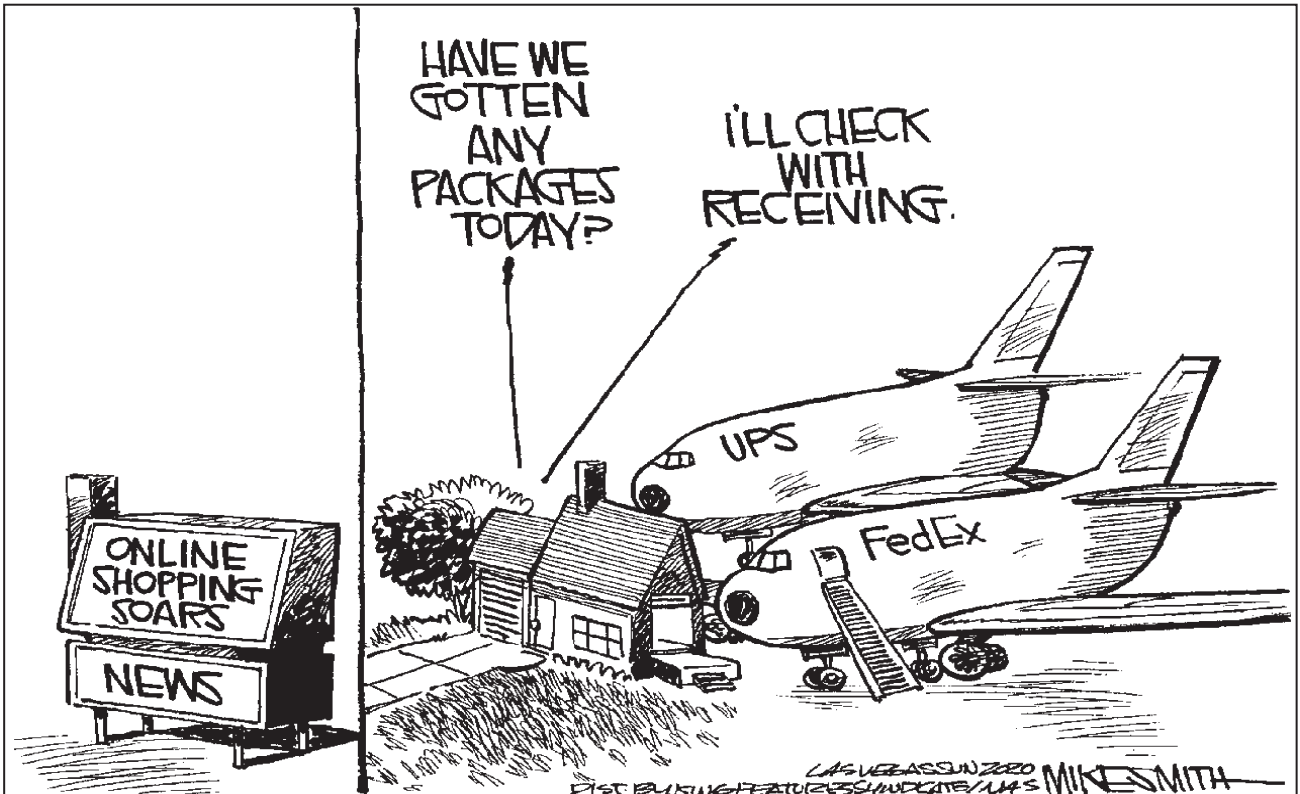
The public does not understand this, nor will it ever accept that we must impose some tax pain on all of us, at least in the short term, to straighten things out.

So, any leaders and followers who take this budget-balancing turn at the T will run the very real risk of falling on their swords, as John Peter Altgeld did when he pardoned the innocent Haymarket protesters in the 1890s, and as Dick Ogilvie did when he pushed through the state income tax in 1969.

Leadership and followership in tough times ain't easy. (Jim Nowlan voted for the new Illinois income tax in 1969, as a freshman House member. A former senior fellow at the University of Illinois Institute of Government and Public Affairs, Nowlan has worked for three unindicted Illinois governors.)

Letters Policy

The Mendota Reporter welcomes letters to the editor on public issues of local interest. Letters must be signed for publication; authors' names will not be withheld. Include your address and telephone number. The number will not be published but may be used to verify authenticity. Unsigned, anonymous letters are never published. Keep your letter as concise as possible. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for length and to withhold letters that do not meet The Reporter's standards of taste and ethics. The Reporter reserves the right to accept or reject letters to the editor endorsing candidates for public office. The deadline is 10 a.m. Monday for Wednesday's issue. Send letters to: The Mendota Reporter, 703 Illinois Ave., P.O. Box 300, Mendota, IL 61342.



Community effort creates hospital – 1950

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Dec. 13, 2000.)

By Jessica Nashold

Subscribers to The Pathfinder were introduced to Mendota in the Dec. 12, 1950 issue. Hubert B. Crow, secretary-manager of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce had submitted a profile of our city that appeared in the "Between Ourselves" department.

Crow described Mendota as a Self-Help Town. The population was 5,131. There were six churches, four schools, 14 "diversified industries" and 90 retail establishments. Named "The World's Greatest Little City" by a former Chamber secretary, Mendota was earning its title with a community hospital under construction.

Funds were being raised by the citizens of Mendota and surrounding towns. Substantial contributions came from the business community and concerned individuals. An open house at the hospital on Dec. 10, 1950, gave the public an opportunity to see what had been accomplished and what would still be needed. Auctions, dances, a scrap metal drive and "hospital benefits" by many organizations chipped away at a balance of \$62,312.68 still needed on Dec. 11, 1950.

The Women's Auxiliary, including members in the extended community, kept busy with bake sales, luncheons and volunteer labor.

The Harris Hospital was advertised for sale. Sealed bids had to be submitted by 5 p.m. on Dec. 16, 1950. It was hoped the new hospital could be ready by March 16, 1951, when the Harris expected to discharge its last patients.

There were other demands on the "community pocket." Between Dec. 3 and Dec. 7, 1950, 90 men and women of the Methodist congregation visited 500 homes and collected \$50,007.52 in donations and pledges toward a new church.

A fundraiser was also in progress toward building bleachers at the MHS football field. The Mendota Athletic Boosters, with 315 members, had been renting bleachers from the Fair Association. Volunteers set them up and took them down each season.

Will continue effort to get permanent seating.

Backtracks & Sidetracks

The VFW Auxiliary set up a table in the lobby of the State Theatre on Dec. 5-6, 1950, to accept donations of gifts suitable for disabled veterans. Anyone who brought a gift would receive a ticket to the featured film for 17 cents. The gifts were to be taken to hospitals in Ottawa, Elgin and Dwight for the veterans being treated there. Libby Brucker, VFW Auxiliary president, was in charge of arrangements.

The Adult Education Program at MHS, directed by Hazel Payne, held an open house Dec. 14, 1950, with exhibits of work produced in Art, Craft and Photography classes. There was also a style show with an emcee who had been enrolled in the Rev. Kenneth Sollitt's Effective Speech class. The adult cooking class prepared refreshments. The next Adult Education series of 10 two-hour classes was to start Jan. 11, 1951.

Classes meet every Thursday evening.

Mel's Grocery at 406 Sixth St. had a grand opening on Dec. 9, 1950.

Snyder's Auto Electric Service on 13th Avenue advertised TV sets. It handled the Admiral, General Electric and Raytheon.

Call for installation estimates.

Charles L. Parsons, 602 S. Main St., was prepared to purchase old newspapers and magazines.

\$1 per 100 pounds. Delivered to yard.

Priding itself on being "The Million Dollar Business in the Cornfield," Diamond M Trading Post, located northeast of Meriden, was a family enterprise owned by Charles, Lois, Chuck, Sandy and Jim Haight. Starting in a 10x10 foot space in a horse barn, it now occupied a 24x60 foot building.

A Hi-Light feature, Pretty Profs, listed among others –
Best Personality – Ruth Doenier, Gilbert Gehler; Nicest Smile

– Verna Mae Elsesser, Joe Rollins; Best Dancer – Mary Brant, Ted Lewis; Most Strict – Mabel Brown, Harry Mauntel

On Dec. 11, 1950, the Mendota Fire Department held its annual Sauerbraten Dinner at the K.C. Hall. Seventy fire department and city council members, with their wives, were in attendance.

On Dec. 12-13, 1950, 70 students enrolled in the Jarrell School of Dance, presented a Dance Revue on the stage of the State Theatre at 8:30 p.m. It was positioned between the first and second showings of "Beware of Blondie," starring Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake. Admission to both the film on the screen and the revue on the stage was 44 cents, including tax.

Saturday morning basketball games for youngsters from fourth through eighth grades began its 1950-51 season. Gymnasiums at Lincoln School and the high school were made available. Coaches at Lincoln were John Hutchinson and Glenn Collins. Coaches at the high school gym were Gilbert Gehler and Lloyd Doenier. Basketballs were furnished by the athletic departments. In 1949-50, there had been 40 boys playing at each location for a period of 14 weeks.

The Mendota Reporter often pictured homes recently built in Mendota. In the Dec. 7, 1950 issue, the new home of Dr. and Mrs. W.M. Wagner, 1223 Chicago St., and of Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Richert, 764 Wisconsin Ave., were described in detail. In the Dec. 14, 1950 issue, the home of Ray Schmehr, 1007 Michigan Ave., and the E.A. Lee home at 1510 Guiles Ave., were shown. Also shown was the Charles Hinkle tri-level at 906 Indiana Ave. It was expected to be ready for the Hinkles the first of the year.

Santa made two pre-Christmas visits to Mendota. He arrived in a sleigh drawn by a jeep, preceded by a police car and the Mendota Appliance sound car. The sleigh was parked at the Candy Kitchen corner. During his visits, Santa distributed 2,300 bags of candy.

Santa said his reindeer were resting up for their big night Christmas Eve.

Biden's radicalism on immigration

By Rich Lowry

One of Joe Biden's first priorities as president will be to risk stoking a new migrant crisis.

After much trial and error, President Donald Trump came up with cooperative arrangements with Mexico and Central American countries that drastically diminished the pressure from asylum-seekers on our southern border.

Biden is pledged to overturn these policies, as well as undermine enforcement and boost immigration numbers across the board. The lie about Biden is that he's "a moderate," when the truth is that he's always been smack in the middle of his party, which is increasingly radical on immigration policy.

The new Democratic Party bristles with contempt for borders and the agents who police them, and its attitude will color everything Biden does.

The migrant crisis that had Trump adopt, then quickly abandon, a zero-tolerance policy that separated children from their parents wasn't of his making. President Barack Obama struggled with the same surge at the border, and many of the photos of children in cages used to condemn Trump date from the Obama years.

Trump only got a handle on the border when he secured deals for help. Mexico agreed to allow migrants seeking asylum in this country to remain in Mexico while their claims were adjudicated. Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, meanwhile, signed safe-third-country agreements, meaning migrants seeking asylum could be sent to those countries to pursue their claims rather than doing so in the U.S.

All of this was necessary to try to close effectively an open-border for migrants from Central America. Once they showed up and claimed asylum here, they were waived into the country and rarely, if ever, removed, even if their asylum claims ultimately failed (as the vast majority did).

Biden has promised a 100-day moratorium on deportations,

a measure that will keep us from removing illegal immigrants even when they are released from jails after committing crimes. This is presumably a step toward re-instituting the Obama administration's policy of gutting interior enforcement.

He will restore DACA, the amnesty for illegal immigrants who came here as minors that Obama lawlessly imposed by diktat.

He will propose to Congress a broader amnesty for more than 10 million illegal immigrants. If the Senate balks, as is likely, Biden will be tempted to follow Obama's (and Trump's) example and implement as much as possible through his own authority.

He will boost the number of refugees to more than 100,000 a year, the highest level in 30 years.

Trump's signature failure on immigration was missing the opportunity to pass significant legislation reflecting his priorities through Congress when Republicans controlled both chambers. But, as Steven Camarota of the restrictionist Center for Immigration Studies notes, the net growth of the immigration population still declined markedly.

Despite all of Trump's incendiary rhetoric, the upshot of his approach was entirely reasonable -- levels of immigration shouldn't inexorably increase, and immigration policy should be subject to a rigorous test of national interest.

Biden represents a return to the old status-quo assumption that more immigration is, ipso facto, a good thing, at the same time he leads a party that is more zealous on the issue than ever before.

Democrats aren't much interested in immigration controls, and it's entirely possible that, soon enough at the border, it will again be uncontrolled.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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SPORTS



Hunters harvested 47,147 deer during opening weekend of Illinois firearm season

SPRINGFIELD — Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 47,147 deer during the first weekend of the Illinois Firearm Deer Season Nov. 20-22 compared with 50,173 deer taken during the first firearm weekend in 2019. Illinois' seven-day Firearm Deer Season concluded Dec. 3-6. Deer harvest totals from areacounties are: Bureau—635;

DeKalb — 77; LaSalle — 465; Lee—334; Ogle—437; Putnam — 207; Whiteside — 420.

Other deer hunting opportunities in the weeks ahead include:

- Muzzleloader-Only Deer Season, Dec. 11-13;
- Late-Winter Antlerless-Only Dec. 31, 2020 — Jan. 3, 2021 and Jan. 15-17, 2021;
- CWD Deer Season (in

select counties only), Dec. 31, 2020 — Jan. 3, 2021 and Jan. 15-17, 2021; and

• Archery Deer Season continues through Jan. 17, 2021

For more details on deer hunting, open counties, and other information, check the Illinois Department of Natural Resources website at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/Deer-Hunting.aspx>

IHSA gives update about winter sports

BLOOMINGTON — Illinois High School Association Executive Director Craig Anderson released the following statement on the IHSA Board of Directors Dec. 2 Discussion Update:

“The IHSA Board of Directors met virtually this morning for an update session, where they discussed several topics, including the timeline of winter sports.

“Given Governor Pritzker’s current mitigations, the Board has no expectation of starting low risk winter sports prior to January. The Board and IHSA staff will continue to monitor the Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation in effect currently. When there is a timeline for the state to emerge from these restrictions, the Board is prepared to restart lower risk winter sports quickly. In addition, the Board hopes to reestablish contact days in January for any winter sports that cannot begin, as well as spring and summer sports. The introduction of the contact days will be based on mitigations from the Governor and the Illinois Department of Public Health at that time. Further guidance on contact days limits will be established at a future Board meeting.

“Given its status as a low risk sport, the Board also discussed the possibility of moving the girls’ badminton season from the spring to the winter. Schools should begin preparing for this possibility as action on this could be decided at the Dec. 14, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.

“The Board reiterated that they remain committed to creating as much opportunity as possible for all sports that remain to be played this school year. They intend to evaluate the equity of each season as a potential resumption date in January begins to materialize. The Board appreciates



the flexibility displayed by our schools throughout the pandemic, and although they recognize the challenges each modification creates, they continue to ask that schools be adaptable in the New Year. The Board continues to evaluate season start and ending dates depending on when the winter season resumes.

“The Board is scheduled to meet again on Dec. 14 at their regularly scheduled December board meeting. The Board will be discussing sports/activities state series, possible adjustments to IHSA By-law 3.022 and 4.022 for semester academic eligibility and the latest information regarding Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation limits.

“The Board and staff have received questions from schools regarding the interpretation of the Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigations and the application in use of the weight room and open gyms before and after school. The Board believes that local schools and their districts may interpret the application of this and whether or not their facilities are made available to community members in their district according to the guidance for public health and fitness centers.

“To reiterate, the Board has no expectation to begin any winter sports seasons until 2021, but will remain agile in their preparation and willingness to adapt should a window present itself sooner.”

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LOCAL AND AREA

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The following deadlines for editorial, advertising and photos will apply for the Reporter Money Saver and The Mendota Reporter:

Money Saver for Dec. 21 - Wednesday, Dec. 16 at noon
Mendota Reporter for Dec. 23 - Thursday, Dec. 17 at noon
Money Saver for Dec. 28 - Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 10 a.m.
Mendota Reporter for Dec. 30 - Wednesday, Dec. 23 at noon
Money Saver for Jan. 4, 2021 - Tuesday, Dec. 29 at 10 a.m.

The Mendota Reporter will be closed at noon on Dec. 24 and all day on Dec. 25.

We will also be closed at noon on Dec. 31st and all day on Jan. 1.

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The 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients: Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.

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 In Oregon at: Merlin's
 In Dixon at: Shining Star
 In Amboy at: Amboy News Office

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Left to Right: Tyler Full, Jackie Near, Mike Wasmer, Mary Ann Baughan, Brandon Pezanoski



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A subscription to The Reporter
 makes a great Christmas gift!

Problems with unemployment benefits continue in Illinois

By COLE LAUTERBACH
 The Center Square

SPRINGFIELD—Months after a historic spike in claims due to COVID-19 related shutdowns, Illinois' unemployed are still struggling to get benefits and some are reporting fraudulent claims with information that's likely from within the state's employment security office.

Sheila Bushong, CFO of Hitchcock Design Group in Naperville, has received nine unemployment notifications for current or former employees who didn't apply. The information provided on the notices included information that Bushong said would only be found at IDES.

"It lists their quarterly wages that have been reported to IDES," she said. "Those quarterly wages are not reported to anyone else."

Perhaps more telling is that all nine of the employees targeted in Bushong's company were also the highest earners.

"All of the claims that I have received so far, a third of our employees, are only people that make over \$100,000 a year," she said.

IDES told the Chicago Tribune that it is investigating more than 212,000 potentially-fraudulent claims, most of which coming from federal unemployment assistance.

In a news conference, three Republican members of the state House of Representatives detailed the calls they're getting from constituents regarding trouble with the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

"Based on the calls coming into my office, we are seeing a significant increase in fraudulent claims being reported by constituents who are currently working and are receiving debit cards and trying to report these issues but not getting called back," said state Rep. Tom Bennett, R-Gibson City. "They're also receiving threatening letters saying they owe money back to IDES, who can garnish wages if fraudulent claims are not resolved in a timely manner."

State Rep. Terri Bryant, R-Murphysboro, said they've not been able to open a dialog with IDES leadership, rather just given updates on their progress in handling the issues and not allowed to ask questions.

A spokesperson for IDES referred questions about potential data breaches to the Department of Information Technology, but said much of the potential fraud can be blamed on data breaches elsewhere.

"Individuals who have been victims of ID theft and whose information has been used to file a claim is likely the result of that individual's personally identifiable information (PII) having been compromised at some time prior to the claim being filed," said spokeswoman Rebecca Cisco. "Massive data breaches, including the Equifax data breach, have left millions of individual's PII vulnerable to fraudsters, who often sit on it and wait to use it when the time is right (e.g. filing credit cards in someone's name, using someone's debit card, filing for unemployment insurance benefits)."

Employers experiencing what appears to be a fraudulent claim could have been compromised themselves, Cisco said.

"Employers who are seeing fraudulent claims filed in their employees' names should first run diagnostics on their own cybersecurity to make sure their systems have not been breached. Additionally, employers who use outside vendors for payroll and unemployment management should check

Christmas Memories

Once again, the coming holidays will add new pages to our album of Christmas memories.

The directors, officers and staff at Eureka Savings Bank hope these pages will be filled with bright, treasured moments you will cherish forever.

The warmth and affection as family and friends gather to celebrate. The enjoyment of exchanging gifts. The Christmas morning wonder reflected on a child's face. The contentment at the end of a holiday feast.

And, perhaps, if you step outside on Christmas Eve, high in the heavens you will see one particular star brighter than the rest, symbolizing renewed hope for a world in which human beings can live together in peace and love.

Our sincere wish for you this holiday season is for your world to be filled with all the happiness, harmony, good health and prosperity it can hold. Not only for a season, but the entire year.



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LOCAL AND AREA

POLICE BLOTTER

WARRANT ARREST

Jennifer L. Lesley, 47, of 404 Fourth Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 8:53 p.m. Dec. on a valid LaSalle County warrant for failure to appear on a charge of operating an uninsured motor vehicle. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Joseph W. Patterson, 20, of 1311 Guiles Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 9:20 p.m. Dec. 6 on a valid Ogle County warrant for failure to register as a sex offender. The subject was released with an Ogle County court date.

SUSPENDED LICENSE

Asia C. Cordova, 25, of 105 20th St., Apt. A6, Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at 13th Avenue and First Street at 5:22 p.m. Dec. 7. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

SUSPENDED LICENSE

Ashley N. Gaines, 29, of 404 Fourth Ave., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at 10th Avenue and Fifth Street at 11:27 p.m. Dec. 7. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

Benefits

Continued from Page A1

with those vendors to make sure their systems have not been compromised. Lastly, employers should do their due diligence with paperwork, shredding and disposing of sensitive personal information properly so that bad actors don't acquire it in a more tangible, on-the-ground, method," she said. The state has issued more than \$17 billion in unemployment assistance since the beginning of the pandemic.

Merry Christmas

At this holy time of year and always, we hope His blessings surround you and bring you peace.

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Christmas Tree Contest

Show off your Christmas decorating skills in the Mendota Reporter's Christmas Tree Photo Contest.

Click on the ad for the contest at www.MendotaReporter.com to enter and to vote.

Submissions will be accepted until Dec. 16 at 4 p.m. Voting starts on Dec 16 at 4 p.m. and runs through Dec. 25 at 11 p.m.

The top vote getter will receive a \$50 cash prize.

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THE BACK PAGE

Proposed new teacher standards spark controversy in Illinois

Religious conservatives object to 'Culturally Responsive Teaching and Leading' standards

By PETER HANCOCK

Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD—The Illinois State Board of Education is considering a set of new standards for teachers and administrators that are aimed at making them more sensitive to students of different cultures and backgrounds, but the proposal is sparking controversy among some religious conservatives.

The "Culturally Responsive Teaching and Leading" standards would amend current standards that apply to all teachers and administrators by adding a host of new requirements meant to ensure they understand how certain population groups have been marginalized in society and encourage them to adapt their teaching methods to be more inclusive of students with diverse cultures, family backgrounds, languages, sexual identity and orientation.

"Every student deserves to feel welcome, included, and accepted at school and to see their cultural identity affirmed and represented in the curriculum," state board spokeswoman Jackie Matthews said in a statement about the proposed standards. "This feeling of belonging is critical to improving academic and behavioral outcomes for Illinois' students."

But the proposed rules have run into

opposition from the Peoria-based Illinois Pro-Family Alliance, a group that regularly lobbies at the Capitol to advocate for what it calls "biblical principles from the word of God."

That group argues that the proposed standards are unconstitutionally vague, that they amount to a form of "compelled speech," and that they infringe on the religious freedoms of individuals who adhere to what the group calls "traditional beliefs about gender and sexuality."

"The proposed rule, if enacted, requires, as a condition of licensure, that teachers take a definite ideological stance with respect to the political and social issues it addresses," PFA lobbyists Ralph Rivera and Molly Malone stated in written public comments on the proposal. "This requirement will create potential conflicts with the deeply held religious convictions of teachers, parents, and students in the state of Illinois. Not all teachers would be able to comply with the new standards without violating their consciences."

Specifically, they point to language in the proposed standards that call on educators to, "Embrace and encourage progressive viewpoints and perspectives that leverage asset thinking toward traditionally marginalized populations," as well as to "understand

and value the notion...that there is not one 'correct' way of doing or understanding something, and that what is seen as 'correct' is most often based on our lived experiences."

In their letter, Rivera and Malone argue that, "many religious faiths believe in the concept of 'objective truth' and would take issue with what appears to be a contradictory position that says, in effect, it is an objective truth that truth does not exist."

ISBE spokeswoman Matthews, however, said in a statement that the state board stands behind the proposed standards.

"Culturally responsive practices are especially important in better supporting Illinois' LGBTQ+ youth, who disproportionately experience bullying and are more likely to attempt suicide," she said.

"The reality is that Illinois' students are increasingly diverse — with more than 52 percent identifying as students of color, and English Learners making up the fastest growing student population — while our teachers remain overwhelmingly white and female," Matthews continued. "The ability to reach students from different cultural backgrounds is an essential skill to succeed as a teacher in Illinois today."

The proposed standards were developed by the state board's Diverse and Learner Ready

Teachers network, a group formed in 2018 as part of a national initiative of the Council of Chief State School Officers. Illinois is one of 10 states taking part in that initiative, and it would be the first state to adopt new standards developed through the network, Matthews said.

The proposed standards were first published in the Illinois Register on Sept. 11, opening up a 45-day public comment period that expired Oct. 25. The state board is scheduled to act on them at its Dec. 1 meeting. If the board approves them, the new rules would be published a second time, starting another 45-day period during which the proposed standards would be reviewed by the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, or JCAR.

If approved by JCAR, the standards would become part of the standards by which all teachers and administrators are evaluated. They would also be incorporated into teacher preparation programs at college and university schools of education, Matthews said.

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



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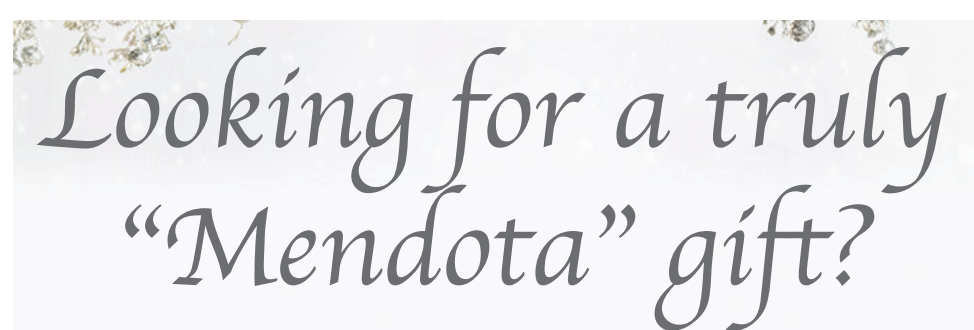
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MGG2020

Nov. 14 is the kickoff date for the Mendota Chamber's 2020 Shop Local Promotion. The Shop Local promotion will run from Nov. 14 through Dec. 31 at participating businesses.

For every \$10 spent in a participating business, you will receive one sticker. In order to qualify, you must turn in a full card and each card must have stickers from at least three of the participating businesses.

Bring in your full cards to the Mendota Chamber Office at 800 Washington St. by noon Monday, Jan. 4, 2021. People may drop off their cards in the city's night drop box on Illinois Avenue. Drawing will take place Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021. The Grand Prize includes over \$1,000 in merchandise & gift cards from our participating businesses. Three consolation gifts baskets worth over \$300 in merchandise & gift cards. Ten additional consolation winners will receive \$20 in Chamber Gift Certificates.

Santa's Christmas COLORING CONTEST

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Entries must be received at our office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, by 3:00 p.m. Thursday, December 17.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Dolly Parton, long considered “The Leading Lady of Country,” has proven what an angel she really is. In April, as the pandemic began to take hold of the world, Dolly donated \$1 million to COVID-19 research that led to the discovery of Moderna’s COVID-19 vaccine. “Praise the lord!” she said on the “Today” show. “I’m just very grateful that this is happening, and if I had anything to do with it, that’s great.”



D. Parton

Netflix has begun streaming Dolly’s Christmas film, “Christmas on the Square,” which co-stars Christine Baranski, Treat Williams and Jennifer Lewis. It’s about a wealthy, pretentious woman who returns to her hometown after inheriting a mall, to evict the tenants and sell the property to land developers (shades of half the Hallmark movies ever made). She also performs two songs she wrote for the film. Thanks for the vaccine, Dolly!

Speaking of Hallmark, it and Lifetime are really pushing the boundaries of diversity. In addition to many of their holiday films that feature interracial couples, Hallmark has got a new film about two gay men (married in real life) played by “Arrow” star Ben Lewis and former “Parks and Recreation” star Blake Lee. “The Christmas Setup” also features Fran Dresher and Ellen Wong and begins airing Saturday, Dec. 12, with reruns on an endless loop.

Then there’s “Sugar and Spice Holiday” which features an Asian-American family; “Feliz NaviDAD,” starring Mario Lopez; as well as “Dear Christmas,” which pairs “Sabrina, The Teenage Witch” star Melissa Joan Hart and “90210’s” Jason Priestley. These films will be running from now until next Christmas!

Expect blockbuster filmmakers to come back to theaters with a vengeance. “The Suicide Squad” sequel not only has Margot Robbie, Jai Courtney, Viola Davis and Joel Kinnaman returning for the second round, but they’ve

added Nathan Fillion, Idris Elba and John Cena. And for extra added insurance they’ve signed the one and only Sylvester Stallone. It’s due Aug. 6, 2021.

Also making the sequel leap is Arnold Schwarzenegger’s new son-in-law, Chris Pratt. “Jo Jo Rabbit” Oscar-nominated director Taika Waititi, who just completed “Next Goal Wins” with Michael Fassbender, Elisabeth Moss and Armie Hammer, has Pratt joining “Thor: Love and Thunder,” as his “Guardian of the Galaxy” character Peter Quill/Starlord. He joins Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman and Tessa Thompson. Christian Bale is joining the cast, but no one will say who he’s playing or how he fits into the story.

Curious too is that Tom Hiddleston is not listed as returning as Loki. Is Christian Bale taking over the role of Loki, or will Hiddleston come on board after contract negotiations? Filming has begun in Australia, so it won’t be long before we find out if Loki got hammered!

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Couch Theater

By Amy Anderson

The night skies have been crisp and clear lately, so I’ve been doing some star-gazing. There above us lies an infinite land of possibility, just out of mere mortal touch -- for now. I’m not alone in wanting to unlock the secrets of the stars, but since I’m more of a space travel dreamer than an actual astronaut hopeful, I’ll just stay here cozy on my couch watching movies about rocket ships and planets, and leave the science of space to the experts. Come with me!

“October Sky” -- The Soviet satellite Sputnik 1 sparks an interest in rockets for Homer (Jake Gyllenhaal), the younger son of a West Virginia coal miner who expects his boys to follow in his footsteps. With the help of an inspirational local teacher (Laura Dern), Homer and his pals set their sights on space instead.

“Hidden Figures” -- Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer and Janelle Monae play a trio

of highly influential Black women in the early space program at NASA, who help to create the science, mathematics and engineering necessary to launch astronaut John Glenn into space and bring him home again, all while breaking past racial barriers.

“Interstellar” -- An Earth-wide drought and overpopulation spark a scientist’s (Michael Caine) plan to rehome our planet’s inhabitants on a new Earth, but first a brave crew -- including a brilliant NASA pilot (Matthew McConaughey) -- must travel through a wormhole to test the path forward, a move that could pay great rewards but at a tremendous personal cost.

“The Right Stuff” -- A Tom Wolfe novel adapted by director Philip Kaufman that stars Sam Shepard, Scott Glenn, Ed Harris, Dennis Quaid and Fred Ward as astronauts of the Mercury space program? Yes, please. NASA’s earliest days are explored through the professional and personal lives of

these space pioneers.

“Apollo 13” -- Ron Howard directs an A-list crew both in the shuttle and on the ground, including Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton, Kevin Bacon, Gary Sinise and Ed Harris, in an intimate look at the Apollo 13 lunar mission’s successes and difficulties. Houston, I did not have a problem with this drama.

“Gravity” -- Sandra Bullock and George Clooney star in this space thriller as astronauts who are left stranded aboard a damaged shuttle. The pair must use all of their wits as they leapfrog from disaster to disaster with the peril of empty space surrounding them.

“First Man” -- This controversial biopic does a commendable job of putting the viewer inside the rocket while it takes a deep dive into the personal life of astronaut Neil Armstrong, played stoic and restrained by Ryan Gosling.

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: I recently started watching the show “Good Girls.” A lot of it is hard to believe, but the three lead actresses are so good, I’m willing to overlook the details. I recognize Christina Hendricks and Mae Whitman from “Mad Men” and “Parenthood,” but what has Retta been in? Also, what’s her full name? -- **F.L.**



Retta

A: Retta, who plays Ruby, one of a trio of felonious housewives on the NBC-Netflix series “Good Girls,” was born Marietta Sirleaf. She had planned on becoming a doctor, but took a detour after college at Duke University into the stand-up comedy world. She had the blessing of her parents when she decided to drop her surname while she led the wild and crazy life of a stand-up comedian.

Before “Good Girls,” Retta played Donna on the NBC comedy “Parks and Recreation.” She was hilarious, but playing Ruby has allowed her to showcase her fantastic dramatic chops as an actress.

Meanwhile, Jonathan Silverman (“No Good Nick”) will join the fourth season of

“Good Girls” as a member of the Secret Service.

Q: I was a big fan of the show “Veep,” starring Julia Louis-Dreyfus. In the final episode, the character playing the role of President Meyer’s husband was spotted twice, despite having (supposedly) been killed off, and none of the characters appeared to notice. What’s the story on that? -- **D.C.**

A: “Veep” was a political-satire comedy series that aired on HBO from 2012 to 2019. Julia Louis-Dreyfus won many deserved Emmy Awards for her performance as vice president -- and eventual president -- Selina Meyer.

David Pasquesi recurred as Selina’s philandering ex-husband Andrew. He was killed off -- until his surprise appearance in the series finale revealed he was alive all along. According to an article in the “Washington Post,” the character “faked his own death to avoid prison time for shenanigans related to her (Selina’s) charitable foundation.”

Next up for Pasquesi, who is known for “Groundhog Day” and “Angels & Demons,” is the thriller “Last Looks” starring Charlie Hunnam (“Sons of Anarchy”) and Morena Baccarin (“Gotham”).

Q: Many years ago there was a series on PBS called “The Forsyte Saga” that followed an upper-middle-class British family from the 1870s forward. It reminded me somewhat of “Downton Abbey.” Is there any chance it might be rebroadcast? -- **B.B.**

A: The original “The Forsyte Saga” series ran for one season in 1967 and starred Eric Porter as Soames Forsyte. A 10-episode remake ran in 2002-03 and starred Damian Lewis as the lead. This second installment can be seen on the streaming service the PBS Masterpiece Channel. If you have Amazon Prime Video, you can purchase Masterpiece as an add-on for just \$5.99 a month, and you’d have access to much more wonderful British programming. If you’d rather not subscribe, you can purchase the DVD collection of the 2002 “The Forsyte Saga” through Amazon.com as well. Also, don’t forget to contact your local library. Many have entire TV series in addition to film collections on DVD that are available to check out.

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

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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* Pine cones have genders. Male pine cones shed pollen and female pine cones make seeds. When the wind blows pollen into the female cones, the seeds become pollinated.

* Cats are believed to be the only mammals that don’t taste sweetness.

* In 1978, DC put out a “Superman vs. Muhammad Ali” comic book. While the plot deals with hostile aliens, the book’s main highlight is the whooping Superman gets in a sparring match with “The Greatest!”

* The first-ever fashion magazine was sold in Germany in 1586.

* Early cosmetic surgeons used a procedure known as paraffin wax rhinoplasty, in which they would inject hot liquid wax into a patient’s nose and mold it into the desired shape. Not only was this dangerous, but, no surprise, it really didn’t work.

* Canada eats more macaroni and cheese than any other nation in the world.

* A French general, the Marquis de Lafayette, gave John Quincy Adams a pet alligator. Our sixth president not only kept it in a White House bathtub, but enjoyed showing it off to visitors.

* There is a town in India called Santa Claus.

* Ever wonder how the tradition of leaving hand and footprints in front of Grauman’s Chinese Theater in Hollywood got started? By accident -- when silent film actress Norma Tallmadge stepped on wet cement.

* Cellophane, invented in 1908, was originally intended to protect tablecloths from wine spills.

* Those old witch potions aren’t quite as gross as you think: Eye of newt, toe of frog and wool of bat are actually archaic terms for mustard seed, buttercup and holly leaves.

* Selfies now cause more deaths than shark attacks.

Thought for the Day: “My father always said, ‘Never trust anyone whose TV is bigger than their bookshelf’ -- so I make sure I read.” -- Emilia Clarke

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• Trivia Test •

1. MOVIES: What was the theme song for the 1997 movie “Titanic”?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is an espadrille?
3. FIRTS: Which company was the first to use an assembly line to manufacture its products?
4. TELEVISION: What was Marge’s maiden name on the animated comedy “The Simpsons”?
5. FOOD & DRINK: What are the main ingredients in a modern mince pie?
6. U.S. STATES: This city has two prominent nicknames, and one of them is The Crescent City. What is the city and state?
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby puffin called?
8. ADVERTISING MASCOTS: What product did Mr. Whipple

- represent for more than 20 years?
9. GEOGRAPHY: What is an old name for north China?
10. MATH: What Arabic number is the equivalent of the Roman numerals MCMLX?

Answers

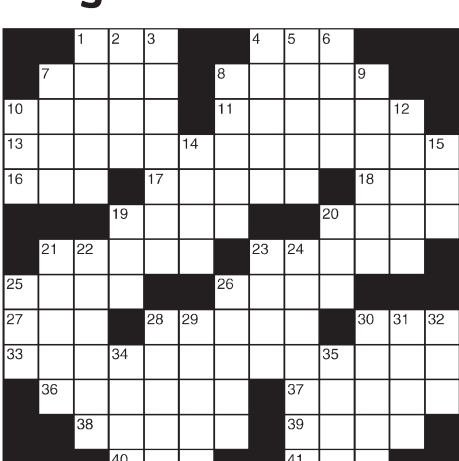
1. “My Heart Will Go On”
2. A rope-soled canvas shoe
3. Ford Motor Co.
4. Bouvier
5. Dried fruits and spices
6. New Orleans, Louisiana. The other nickname is The Big Easy.
7. A puffling
8. Charmin bathroom tissue
9. Cathay
10. 1960

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Vagrant
- 4 Poke
- 7 Femur or fibula
- 8 Elaine’s last name on “Seinfeld”
- 10 Cook by direct heat
- 11 Silvery
- 13 Smooth-coated pooch
- 16 1/20 ton (Abbr.)
- 17 Humdinger
- 18 Moving truck
- 19 Narnia’s
- 20 Antitoxins
- 21 Munchie
- 23 Enthusiasts’ emotions
- 25 Roe provider
- 26 Group of quail
- 27 Debtor’s letters
- 28 Muslim maiden
- 30 Thee
- 33 High-backed chairs
- 36 Earthling, in sci-fi
- 37 Flavor
- 38 Go over the books



- 39 Spud’s buds
- 40 Always, in verse
- 41 Two, in Tijuana
- DOWN
- 1 Give a leg up
- 2 One
- 3 Tuneful
- 4 Spanish wine town
- 5 Mad
- 6 Tavern offering
- 7 Forehead
- 8 Conductor’s wand
- 9 Whine
- 10 English channel?
- 12 Signs of sorrow
- 14 Kindle competitor
- 15 Genetic stuff
- 19 Young fellow
- 20 Put into words
- 21 Try for a two-pointer
- 22 Queasiness
- 23 Nil
- 24 Ousted
- 25 Bro or sis
- 26 Beyond well-done
- 28 Throng
- 29 Where the elated walk
- 30 Affirmatives
- 31 Uneaten morsels
- 32 Work with
- 34 Verifiable
- 35 Boxer’s successful blow

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

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

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

Answers

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Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

LOCAL AND AREA

IVCC News Briefs

IVCC offering daytime ESL classes

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Adult Education program will offer daytime English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to accommodate students not able to attend class in the evening at Ottawa Center, 321 W. Main St., in spring.

The program received additional funding of \$14,500 under the CURES Act to purchase technology to support remote learning.

For the second year, and in conjunction with IVCC's Career and Technical Education program, they also received an Integrated Education and Training (IET) grant for \$20,000 to help adult ed students obtain their High School Equivalency (HSE), transition to certificate programs and earn stackable credentials in healthcare and manufacturing.

Adult Education director Sara Escatel said, "The additional funding will really benefit our ESL and HSE students, especially those unable to attend classes face-to-face."

For information, contact Escatel at (815) 224-0355.

Free Cybersecurity info session set

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College cybersecurity instructor Nancy McDonnell presents the free information session "Cybersecurity Today" via Zoom at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16.

The one-hour session, sponsored in partnership with district chambers of commerce, is available to small businesses.

Topics include assessing the alarming rate of cybercrime and its cost, risks to small business, ways to keep your business secure, and how IVCC's program can help. RSVP by Dec. 14 via email at kim_herout@ivcc.edu or (815) 224-0233.

IVCC conducts student election

OGLESBY – Grace Sparling of Spring Valley was elected president recently in sophomore Student Government Association online elections at Illinois Valley Community College.

Isabel Lueck of Oglesby was elected vice president, Gorge Leon of Ottawa, secretary, Naomi Ochuba of Peru, treasurer, Reid Tomasson of Oglesby, sophomore representative, and Gabrielle Englehaupt of Ladd, sophomore programming board member.

"With multiple events such as COVID-19 and the security breach occurring at the end of spring semester, SGA delayed election of sophomore positions until this fall," said Cory Tomasson, coordinator of student activities.

"The winners are highly active and successful students. I believe this group will effectively represent the student body

throughout the academic year and provide opportunities for students to remain engaged," Tomasson added.

Essay contest entries being sought

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's English Department is now accepting submissions for the Richard Publow Memorial Awards in Writing for the 2020 school year.

The best essays from ENG 0900, 1001, and 1002 will win cash prizes and recognition at IVCC's Academic Awards Banquet.

Deadline for submission is Tuesday, Dec. 15. To learn more or to submit an essay, contact Nora Villarreal or visit <https://ivccpublow.wordpress.com/>.

The awards are named after former English and philosophy instructor, Richard H. "Rick" Publow who taught at IVCC from 1967 until his death in 1996.



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LOCAL AND AREA

Discover the one who is everything you need

It's wonderful to know that, as believers in Christ, we can live in close fellowship with God. Jesus said in John 16:7 (AMP), "I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor – Counselor, Strengthen, Standby) will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him (the Holy Spirit) to you [to be in close fellowship with you]."

When Jesus walked the earth, He could be in one place at a time and He

could be with the disciples. But the Holy Spirit can be everywhere, all the time, and He lives IN those who have accepted Christ as their Savior. Being with Jesus is good, but having the Holy Spirit in us is even better. We don't have to go looking for God because He's as close as close can get!

See, when we receive Christ and we're born again, it literally means that God – through the power of the Holy Spirit – comes to live inside us. He makes us new on the

inside, and as He works in us, the fruit of what He's doing is seen in the way we live and does some good for the people in the world around us. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21; John 14:17, 26; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22-23.)

The Many Roles of the Holy Spirit in Your Life

John 16:7 tells us who the Holy Spirit is: Helper, Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor, Counselor, Strengthen and Standby. John 14:26 (AMP) says "He will teach you all things." The Holy Spirit is THE Teacher and He guides us into all truth.

Think of this from the standpoint of recovering from things in the past that have hurt you. Many people come to God because their life is messed up and they don't know what to do to fix it. They've tried everything they know to do and nothing is working. So finally, in their desperation, they ask for His help.

Thankfully, God wants to help us and heal us – spirit, soul and body. He wants to bring restoration to us so we won't live in a state of recovery forever. He wants us to be whole in Christ so we can help someone else. We need the Holy Spirit to lead us to truth one step at a time, and we need His strength to confront things that are hard to face so we can get victory over them.

How the Truth Healed Me and Set Me Free



In my journey with Christ, He's brought so much healing and restoration to my soul – my mind, will and emotions. My father sexually abused me throughout my childhood. When I left home at 18, I thought, "That's over! I'm putting that problem behind me." But I took the problem with me because the wounds of the abuse were still in my soul.

The pain of my past affected my thinking, how I operated emotionally, all of my relationships, and even my will. I was rebellious and stubborn and promised myself no one would ever hurt me or push me around again.

I was born again at this time but didn't know that I could have the power of the Holy Spirit working in my life. It was years later, after I started seriously studying the Word of God, that I realized the Holy Spirit could heal me.

It's so important to understand that we cannot do this on our own, but as we lean on the Holy Spirit for the strength to face our problems, we can overcome them.

If you have hurts from abuse, disappointments, an

injustice or any other kind of mistreatment, you will have to face them with the help of the Holy Spirit to be healed of them. Anything you run from has a certain amount of power over you, and until you face it, every time it raises its ugly head, you have to run some more. Thank God, you don't have to do it alone!

As I began my journey to wholeness in Christ, I had to face some painful things I had been avoiding and at times, running from. I had to face the fact that my parents didn't know how to love me...that I had been abused...that there was a lot of pain in my life because of it all... that my dysfunctional behavior was rooted in the mistreatment I had experienced and I couldn't blame it on the people in my life now. I had to take responsibility for my wrong attitudes, mindsets and behavior, and lean on God for the wisdom and strength to change.

Recovery and restoration of our souls takes time, so be patient with yourself in the process. I want to encourage you today to trust God's love for you and that He wants to help you and heal you.

The truth is, you can't heal yourself, but you can be completely healed and whole in Christ, because all things are possible with God!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching CD series Learning to Be Led by the Holy Spirit. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 100 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and her newest devotional QUIET TIMES WITH GOD (FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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

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Rev. Peter A. Pilon, Pastor
Ray Fischer, Jose Lopez,
and Hector Diaz, Deacons
.....
HOLY CROSS, MENDOTA
Weekday Mass
Weekend Mass
Confession

**STS. PETER AND PAUL,
PETERSTOWN**
Weekend Mass
Confession

**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
100 E. Sixth St.
(815) 538-5587
.....
Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor
Cell: (815) 718-2191

Sunday Praise Worship
Sunday school for all ages
Traditional Worship

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

**ZION UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
808 Jefferson St.
.....
Pastor Hogun Kim
(219) 765-1379
pastorhogunkim@gmail.com

Church office
(815) 538-2186

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
Worship & Children's Sunday School

**COME AS YOU ARE
BAPTIST CHURCH**
900 Monroe St.
(815) 503-0307
.....
James Duncan, Pastor
Website: www.cayabc.com
Email prayer requests: prayer@cayabc.com

**SUNDAY: Worship
Sunday School**

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

Posted by Rev. Susan Presley

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

**SUNDAY: Christian Education
Sunday Worship
WEDNESDAY**

**VICTORY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
"Faithful & Effective"
505 W. 7th Ave.
(815) 539-9081
.....
Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY
Sunday school
Worship

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service

**NEW COVENANT
ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
Rt. 251 at Lake Mendota
P.O. Box 54
Phone (815) 539-7107 (church)
(815) 871-5702 (pastor)
.....
Larry Sheaves, Pastor
www.newcovenantmendota.org
www.facebook.com/NCAOG

"Preaching the blood, book and
blessed hope."
**Sunday School
Worship**

**MENDOTA BIBLE
CHURCH**
Rt. 251, 1/2 mile south of
Mendota
(815) 538-6876
.....
Brian Kelly, Pastor
www.mendotabiblechurch.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Sunday School
Worship
Evening Service

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
607 Tenth Ave.
(815) 539-5626

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor
E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

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

Find us on Facebook

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

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are little among the
thousands of Judah,
Yet out of you shall come forth to Me
The One to be Ruler in Israel,
Whose goings forth are from of old,
From everlasting. - MICAH 5:2

"The Virgin Mary Cradling the Baby Jesus"
by Charles-François Huetin (1764)

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
1003 5th St. • (815) 538-5603
.....
Rev. Susan Presley
Website: fpcmendota.com

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

Sunday Fellowship:
https://us02web.zoom.
us/j/85746317823
To call in for audio only, dial
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting
ID: 857 4631 7823
Live Zoom at 11 a.m.
Let's catch up!
Wednesday Evening Gathering:
Live Zoom at 7 p.m.
https://us02web.zoom.
us/j/86402369150
To call in for audio only, dial
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting
ID: 864 0236 9150
Might be Bible Study, might be
fellowship, might be sharing.

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

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

1107 Main St.
(815) 993-2462
.....
Dave Manion ♦ Jim McDowell
Wayne Shuman
Please join us for . . .
Sunday Bible Study (all ages)
Sunday Worship
Church Builders
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer
Saturday Men's Ministry

Non-denominational
Please call for more information

COMPTON
**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
398 Church Road • Compton
.....
Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger
(815) 539-6567
Wheelchair accessible

Website: www.ilccompton.org
E-mail: immanuellutheran
compton@live.com

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
*At this time in-person worship has
been suspended due to COVID-19.
Please check out Immanuel's
Facebook page or website for
Sunday worship videos and other
worship opportunities.*

**COMPTON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
139 W. Chestnut
Compton
(815) 497-2491
.....
Pastor Dana Cox
pawpawumc@juno.com

Sunday Worship

LA MOILLE

**ZION EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

(815) 539-7820
.....

Sunday Worship
Sunday School
Accessible

**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

La Moille
(815) 638-2348
.....
Pastor David Jungnickel
E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

**SUNDAY WORSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL**
Nursery available

TROY GROVE

**FAITH BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP**
208 W. South St., Troy Grove
.....
Pastor Brian Hamiel
Website: www.faithbiblefellowship.info
E-mail: fbfcchurch20817@gmail.com

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
SUNDAY SERVICE**

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

- Is the book of Herod in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- Which "Caesar" ordered all the world to be taxed, causing Mary to travel to Bethlehem while expecting the baby Jesus? Julius, Tiberius, Claudius, Augustus
- Where in the Bible (KJV) does it inform of the Christ Child being born in a December? Does not, John 1:14, Romans 6:23, Galatians 4:4
- With seemingly two different New Testament answers, who was the father of Joseph? Jacob/Heli, Gideon/Ishmael, Solomon/Nahum, Samuel/Pilate
- Where did the angel Gabriel appear to Mary saying, "Blessed art thou among women"? Nazareth, Tyre, Ninevah, Gazi
- For the journey to Bethlehem, how did Mary and Joseph travel? Bible not specific, Cart, Rode donkey, Small raft

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Augustus; 3) Does not; 4) Jacob/Heli; 5) Nazareth; 6) Bible not specific
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♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

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

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MARKETPLACE

101 LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LA SALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF)
(
Geneva A. Ernat,)
Deceased)
Case No. 2020-P-211
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Geneva A. Ernat of Peru, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 2, 2020 to Phillip L. Ernat of 120 N. 34th Road, Peru, IL 61354 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, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 1, 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. 1105 (11/25, 12/2, 12/9 2020)

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

In the Matter of the)
Estate)
of LAURIE F. WIESE,)
Deceased.)
No. 2020-P-220

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of LAURIE F. WIESE of 2705 St. Vincent Avenue, LaSalle, Illinois 61301. Letters of Office were issued on November 19, 2020 to AUDREY SEBBEN, 217 South Western Avenue, Ladd, Illinois 61329, as independent executor, whose attorneys are DOUGLAS B. OLIVERO & ASSOCIATES, 1615 Fourth Street, Peru, Illinois 61354. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, Ottawa, Illinois 61350, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication of this notice. If claim notice is personally mailed or delivered to a creditor of the above estate, then claim must be filed in the above en-

titled cause within three months from the date of mailing or delivery, whichever is later. Any claims not filed within the above periods 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.

The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. A copy of a form of a petition to terminate independent administration may be obtained from the Clerk of the Court at the above address.

DOUGLAS B. OLIVERO & ASSOCIATES
Attorneys for Estate
1615 Fourth Street
Peru, Illinois 61354
Telephone: 815/224-2400
No. 1106 (11/25, 12/2 & 12/9 2020)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF)
DONNA L. CRAFT,)
Deceased.)
2020 P 00217

CLAIMS NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Donna L. Craft, of LaSalle County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on the 12th day of November, 2020 to Larry R. Hunter and Brian R. Craft, whose attorney is Eric B. Deobler of White, Marsh, Anderson, Martin, Vickers, Deobler & Goode, 511 E. Etna Road, Ottawa, IL 61350. Claims against the estate may be filed with the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Downtown Courthouse, Ottawa, Illinois 61350, or with the representative, or both, on or before the *25th day of May 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 that notice, if later than the date shown above. Any claim not filed within the time allowed is barred. If the claim is filed with the Circuit Clerk of the Court then E-filing is now mandatory for filing an estate claim with the Circuit Clerk. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov>.

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or

gov/service-providers. htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local Circuit Clerk's office.

Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to each representative to whom letters of office have been issued and not revoked and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed and a proof of mailing or delivery filed with the Circuit Clerk. See 755ILCS 5/18-1 for details of how to file a claim.
No. 1107 (11/25, 12/2 & 12/9 2020)

NOTICE

Any candidate wishing to file a petition for the following Mendota Township Offices: Supervisor, Road Commissioner, Assessor, Clerk & Trustees may do so at the Mendota Township Office located at 602 S. Main Street Mendota, IL.

December 14, 2020, 9:00 am until 12:00 pm
December 15, 2020, 9:00 am until 12:00 pm
December 16, 2020, 9:00 am until 12:00 pm
December 21, 2020, 9:00 am until 5:00 pm.
Mendota Township Clerk Linda Corrigan
No. 1108 (12/2 & 12/9 2020)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF)
PATRICIA A.)
WHITMORE,)
Deceased.)
Case No. 2020-P-000221

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of PATRICIA A. WHITMORE. Letters of Office were issued on November 23, 2020 to GERALD G. WHITMORE, 1704 Meriden St., Mendota, IL 61342, as Executor, whose Attorney is MICHAEL G. BOKUS, 609 Eighth Avenue, Mendota, Illinois 61342. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the LaSalle County Circuit Clerk, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison Street, Ottawa, Illinois 61350, or with the representative, or both, before the date stated in this notice, which date shall be not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication or 3 months from the date of mailing or deliv-

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

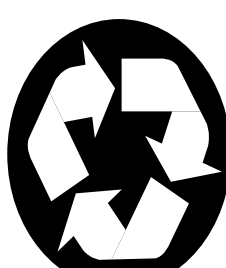
issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

203 HELP WANTED

PART-TIME LPN - CNA - MA - Wanted in Doctor's Office. 815-761-2503. Email jio8082@hotmail.com (01-03-20)

SNOW PLOW Sub Contractor With Truck Needed in Rochelle 815-748-3782. (12-09-20)

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



ery, whichever is later, and that any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representatives and to his Attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date of first publication: December 9, 2020, A.D. Claim Deadline: May 10, 2021, A.D. CIRCUIT CLERK LASALLE COUNTY OTTAWA, ILLINOIS Michael G. Bokus, Attorney at Law 609 Eighth Avenue Mendota, IL 61342 Phone: 815/ 539-5002 FAX: 815/ 538-5771 ARDC No. 6285775 No. 1201 (12/9, 12/16, 12/23 2020)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF)
JAMES B. JAMISON,)
Deceased.)
Case No. 2020-P-000224

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of JAMES B. JAMISON. Letters of Office were issued on November 24, 2020 to SUSAN I. FURMAN-SKI, 585 Lexington Square E., Gurnee, IL 60031, as Executor, whose Attorney is MICHAEL G. BOKUS, 609 Eighth Avenue, Mendota, Illinois 61342.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the LaSalle County Circuit Clerk, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison Street, Ottawa, Illinois 61350, or with the representative, or both, before the date stated in this notice, which date shall be not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, whichever is later, and that any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representatives and to her Attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date of first publication: December 9, 2020, A.D. Claim Deadline: May 10, 2021, A.D. CIRCUIT CLERK LASALLE COUNTY OTTAWA, ILLINOIS Michael G. Bokus, Attorney at Law 609 Eighth Avenue Mendota, IL 61342 Phone: 815/ 539-5002 FAX: 815/ 538-5771 ARDC No. 6285775 No. 1202 (12/9, 12/16, 12/23 2020)

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

FOR SALE: DOG Crate. Heavy Plastic. 24 1/2" Long, 17 1/2" Wide, & 21 1/2" High. \$20 Firm. 815-751-5312. (12-13-20)

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.

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES

FOR SALE: Mixed Jack Russell Terrier Puppies Call 815-501-2718.

315 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED
FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-598-1758 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1 & 2 - BED ROOM Apartments. Clean, Quiet Available Now. Some Utilities Included. Call For Showing 815-762-6650 or 815-761-3968. (12-20-20)

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.

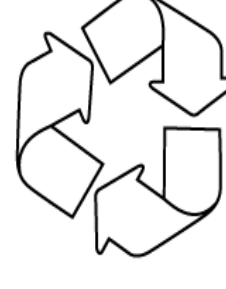
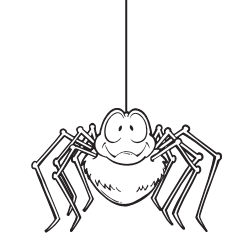
APT FOR RENT IN COMPTON

Large recently remodeled 2 bedroom. Stove, Refrigerator, Water, Sewer & Garbage included. \$550.00/Month Deposit & Reference Required. 815-539-6629 12092020

507 FARM AND FARM LAND

PASTURE WANTED to Rent for 2021 Beef Cattle. John Nadig Rochelle, 815-748-3782. (12-09-20)

ADVERTISE WITH US



Recycle

203 HELP WANTED

SCHOOL COOK
Immediate position available for part-time / full-time cook. Hours negotiable through remote learning schedule. For additional information contact Supt. L. Taylor, 815-396-2413 or send resume by email to Steward School, PO Box 76, Steward, Illinois 60553. 12092020

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC WANTED

Responsibilities include: preventative maintenance on mechanical equipment and machines, use of hand and power tools necessary, electrical experience a plus, perform daily inspections of premises and equipment. Send resume to Box 619 Mendota Ill 61342 12072020

Well-established contractor looking to hire person with general carpentry skills who works well with others and possesses good work ethic.
Pay established according to skill level. Please send resume to W.E.C. c/o The Mendota Reporter, P.O. Box 300, Mendota, IL 61342. 07272020

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2019 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4

LTZ, GM Certified, 1 Owner, Local Trade, w/ Leather Heated/Cooled Seats, Bedliner, Tonneau Cover & Much More! Silver

\$44,900

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

- 2-Year/24,000-Mile Standard CPO Maintenance Plan
- 12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty
- 6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty
- 24/7 Roadside Assistance
- 172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process
- 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee

2020 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD, Loaded, GM Exec Black or White.....\$45,900	2018 Chevy Impala LT 47K Miles, Blue\$19,000
2020 Chevy Malibu LT 8K Miles, Red\$23,500	2018 Chevy Malibu LT Leather, Nav., 50K Miles Silver.....\$18,900
2019 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4, 26K Miles Silver.....\$44,900	2018 Chev Equinox FWD LT Sunroof, 62K Miles Black\$17,500
2019 Buick Encore Preferred FWD, 10k mi, White.\$20,900	2018 Chevy Malibu LT 45K Miles, Tan\$16,500
2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, Z71, 4x4, Black .\$40,900	2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, LTZ, Pearl White .\$33,900
2018 Chevy Traverse AWD Premier, 54K Miles Silver.....\$30,500	2017 Buick Envision Preferred AWD, 21K Miles, Black\$24,900
2018 Chevy Equinox LT AWD 20K Miles, Pepperdust .\$22,900	2017 Chevy Cruze LT Remote Start, Power Seat, White.....\$15,500
2018 Chevy Equinox LT AWD, Remote Start, Power Seat, Black\$19,500	2016 Chevy Equinox FWD LT 43K Miles, Silver\$15,500

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2018 Chevy Traverse 3LT, AWD Leather, Gray.....\$26,900	2015 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, Leather, White .\$26,900
2017 GMC Acadia Denali AWD, Maroon\$28,900	2014 Chevy 1500 Double Cab Z71, 4x4, Black\$23,500
2016 Chevy Malibu LT Leather, 98K mi., Gray.....\$13,900	

VAESSEN BROTHERS CHEVROLET, INC.
"Great Deals - Great Service Since 1926"
Ally Financing and GMF Financing or Leasing

HIGHWAY 52 SUBLETTE, IL
www.vaessenbrothers.com
(815) 849-5232 1-800-227-5203

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

FIND NEW ROADS™**CHEVROLET**

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.

WHO CAN DO IT?

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

FUNERAL HOME

Wasmer
FUNERAL HOME
Catherine Wasmer
Celebration Of Life Center

2112 W. Main St.
Mendota
815-539-8500

INSURANCE

Still shopping your auto insurance to lower your premium? 1st Auto provides you with the security & expertise to provide you a competitive price for your personal & farm vehicles.

**You're 1st Rate
So You Rate 1st!**

Find out today how much you can save on your Personal Auto Insurance.

1stAuto
& Casualty Insurance Company

Heiting Insurance Agency
1409 E. Main • Mendota • (815) 539-9265

AUTO SALES

JP **Mercedes-Benz**

Carole Eich
Sales & Leasing Consultant

JP Chevrolet
Nissan - Mercedes-Benz
3675 Frontage Rd.
Peru, IL 61354

815-223-7000 • Fax: 815-224-4288 • www.jpchevy.com

TRANSPORTATION

MSS **Mendota Area Senior Services**

Programs & Services:

- Transportation Services
- Caregiver Support & Services
- Options Counseling
- Lending Closet
- Senior Health Insurance Program
- Educational Opportunities (Computer Lab & Resource Center)
- Advocacy
- Information & Assistance
- Congregate Meal Site
- Senior Center

1901 Tom Merwin Drive, Mendota, IL
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