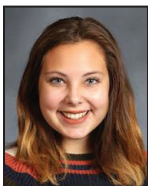


# DAR, SAR Good Citizen award winners named at Mendota H.S.

□ Martinson picked for DAR award, Stachlewitz selected for SAR

MENDOTA – Mendota High School has announced the winners of the 2020-21 DAR and SAR Good Citizens program, sponsored by the Illi-



ni Chapter of NSDAR. Twila Martinson was chosen to receive the DAR award and Perris Stachlewitz was the recipient of the SAR award. These awards are open to all seniors. The recipients are nominated by fellow senior classmates and the faculty at MHS. Criteria for the DAR and SAR awards include dependability, cooperation, leadership and patriotism.

## DAR Award

Martinson is the daughter of Todd and Lisa Martinson. While in high school, her activities and achievements have included tennis, basketball, track, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Scholastic Bowl, Math Team, Student Council, Homecoming committee, six semesters on the honor roll and BNC All-Con-

ference Scholar-Athlete.

She has also been involved in community service activities and volunteer activities including a variety of activities through her church, Interact, and other organizations including Feed my Starving Children, Kids Against Hunger, volunteer bell ringer for Salvation Army, Rotary Club corn sales, Lions Club corn sales, volunteer at PADs homeless shelter, and donating blood to American Red Cross and Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center.

Outside of school, Martinson works for the city of Mendota, Sip 'n Snack and babysits. She absolutely loves spending time or having a good laugh with her friends and family. She added that simple things like being outside in the sunshine either going on walks, horseback rides, swimming, fishing, ice skating, and canoeing is a nice way to get away from distractions and chaotic life.

She also appreciates a good nap.

In her essay on the four qualities of a DAR Good Citizen (dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism), she said:

In my opinion, I think it is important to care for others and to have a big heart. I have been extremely blessed with the best people in my life who have always gone out of their way to make certain I am doing well. This amazing support system has always made me feel so special and loved and that is how I want others, even strangers, to feel as well. I know how it feels to be both brought down and lifted up, which causes me to believe there is enough hate in this world and the least I can do is bring a smile to someone's face or make their day. All throughout my life I have tried to put myself in other's shoes and understand their situation. I know I may not always understand, but I want to at least try to be an ear to hear and a shoulder to cry on. Dependability is putting forth the effort to ensure that those around you are frequently reminded of

how important they are and that there is always someone that is there for them.

When I think about service, I instantly think of the word caring. To me, to serve the community is to willingly go out of your way to help others from the kindness of your heart. There are many ways to be a service to the community.

In leadership, I think the biggest thing is never giving up. It is being contented with where you are at but always striving for better. You have to be mentally strong to be a leader. Many of my relatives and ancestors have served for my country including both of my grandpas and my great-grandpa, Freddie Schulze, who fought in the trenches in France during WWI as well as my great-great-grandpa, James Larabee, who received the medal of honor during the Civil War. Having this history in my family has made me come to appreciate this country even more. Growing up hearing my grandpa's endless stories

See Awards, Page A5

# Madigan floats income tax increase for Illinois

□ GOP leader asks for spending cuts

By SARAH MANSUR  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — As the state government attempts to close a multi-billion-dollar budget hole, Democratic House Speaker Michael Madigan has said he is prepared to vote for an increase to the state's flat income tax rate should the governor request it — a proposal met with pushback from his Republican counterpart, House Minority Leader Jim Durkin.

The \$3.9 billion budget shortfall, projected by the state budget office, that lawmakers will confront this spring has gained an increasing sense of urgency with the defeat of the graduated income tax constitutional amendment at the ballot on Nov. 3.

Voters rejected the initiative that would have replaced the state's flat income tax with a graduated income tax, which was projected to raise revenues by more than \$3 billion annually.

The state's flat income tax rate is currently 4.95 percent. The rate had been 3.75 percent from 2015 to 2017, and it was 5 percent from 2011 to 2014.

The state budget office has projected budget deficits ranging from \$4.8 billion in 2022 and \$4.2 billion by fiscal year 2026, according to a report last month from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget.

That report attributed the sizable budget deficit largely to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic that has forced many businesses to shut down and led to skyrocketing levels of unemployment.



See Tax, Page A5

# New jobless claims surge in Illinois

By PETER HANCOCK  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — More than 107,000 Illinois workers filed first-time unemployment claims last week, a 45-percent increase over the week before as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to wreak havoc on the state and national economies.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security reported that there were 107,616 new claims filed during the week that ended Saturday, Dec. 5, up from 75,536 the previous week. That compares to 14,798 initial claims filed during the same period last year.

That increase was part of a nationwide trend as the entire country has experienced record numbers of new cases and hospitalizations due to the pandemic. But the increase in new jobless claims in Illinois was sharper than it was nationally.

See Jobs, Page A5

# Inquiry opened into LaSalle Veterans' Home deaths

□ COVID-19 outbreak at the facility has led to at least 32 resident deaths

By SARAH MANSUR  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — A coronavirus outbreak at the veterans' home in LaSalle that has killed a quarter of the residents over the span of a few weeks has prompted the chairman of a state House committee to open an investigation into the deaths.

"I don't know what it is or who's responsible but something is wrong," said Rep. André Thapedi, chairman of the House Judiciary-Civil Committee in a phone interview. "And that's why I consider this to be a legal matter. What occurred — when you have 32 of our heroes dying in our care — that's clearly a legal matter. So, I want to use all of my skills and all other resources that I have as a legislator to try to get to the bottom of what happened."

Thapedi, D-Chicago, said the committee is "taking steps to conduct a fact-based investigation and hearings" before the new Illinois General Assembly is sworn in on Jan. 13, according to Thapedi's Dec. 1 letter addressed to Gov. JB Pritzker, Attorney General Kwame Raoul, House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago, and

*"I don't know what it is or who's responsible but something is wrong. What occurred — when you have 32 of our heroes dying in our care — that's clearly a legal matter."*

— Rep. André Thapedi, chairman of the House Judiciary-Civil Committee

House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, R-Western Springs.

On Dec. 2, Thapedi submitted a written request for a broad range of documents pertaining to the outbreak from Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Administrator Angela Mehlbrech, who was the administrator of the LaSalle facility. On Dec. 7, the state issued a news release noting Mehlbrech had been "terminated," with Assistant IDVA Director Anthony Vaughn to serve as interim administrator of LaSalle Home.

The written request asks for vendor information for the hand sanitizer and personal protective equipment



Since the outbreak began on Nov. 1, the LaSalle home has reported that 32 residents have died of COVID-19 related illnesses, according to the latest update from the IDVA on Dec. 5.

used, as well as the specific rules and protocols related to COVID-19 in effect at the facility, among other demands for information and documents.

In Thapedi's letter, he asked Mehlbrech to provide the documents by Dec. 9.

Since the outbreak began on Nov. 1, the LaSalle home has reported that 32 residents have died of COVID-19 related illnesses, according to the latest update from

the IDVA on Dec. 5. As of midnight on Oct. 31, there were 128 residents at the home, according to an IDVA spokesperson.

Two separate on-site visits conducted at the LaSalle home — the first by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on Nov. 12, and the other by the Illinois Department of Public Health on Nov. 17 — made several recommendations, including replacing the less effective alcohol-free

hand sanitizer with an alcohol-based sanitizer.

The U.S. VA report provides examples of staff violating personal protective equipment guidelines, including an instance where three staff members in the facility's kitchen were seen with masks around their chins, eating, and all within less than 6 feet from each other.

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SEE SHOPPE LOCAL DIRECTORY  
AT WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM



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# LOCAL AND AREA

## First COVID-19 vaccines arrive in Illinois

By JERRY NOWICKI  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — The first COVID-19 vaccinations have arrived in Illinois as virus metrics continued to trend in a direction that indicates the spread of the virus is slowing.

Approximately 43,000 doses of the vaccine manufactured by the drug company Pfizer were delivered to the state's Strategic National Stockpile. Chicago also received a direct shipment from the federal government Dec. 14, while health departments in Cook, Lake, Madison and St. Clair counties will receive shipments this week as well, according to the governor's office.

Together, the shipments account for the roughly 100,000 doses the state was expecting in the initial phase of rollout. Gov. JB Pritzker's office distributed video of him examining the vaccine shipments and consulting with health professionals at the stockpile site Monday.

"Today marks a momentous occasion — not just



Gov. JB Pritzker, left, talks to a worker at the site of the state's Strategic National Stockpile in front of a row of ultra-cold freezers needed to store the COVID-19 vaccine manufactured by the drug company Pfizer at 70 degrees below zero Celsius. (Credit: Illinois.gov)

this year, but in American history," Pritzker said in a statement. "Eleven months after scientists the world over first got their hands on the genetic sequence of this virus — and we are seeing the beginning of the end of this pandemic."

Pritzker's office said the "vast majority" of doses in this shipment will be delivered from the stockpile to

10 hospitals around the state serving as regional coordinators. Those hospitals will serve as "pick up locations" for local health departments to begin distribution to health care workers in their jurisdictions. The remaining portion will go directly to predetermined local health departments.

The governor's office said more shipments are expected

in the coming weeks.

But while the vaccine will be distributed in a limited supply initially to health care workers and long-term care facility residents, it could still take several months to be distributed to the general population, meaning social distancing, masking and other virus mitigation measures remain important lifesaving precautions.



### Service project

The Fort du Rocher chapter of NSDAR fulfilled a service project when members gathered gently used handbags for distribution at Freedom House. Many of the residents of Freedom House were forced to leave home without time to take any personal possessions. The bags were filled with items of necessity and much love by, left to right, Kathy Smith, Janet Koch, Linda Byrd, Donna Robinson and Kasha Bonnell. (Photo contributed)

### Healthcare Provider CPR course offered at OSF Saint Paul

MENDOTA — OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center is offering its Healthcare Provider Car-

diopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) class on Thursday, Jan. 7, beginning at 5 p.m. There is a \$40 fee per person for the course, which must be pre-paid to reserve a spot in the class. Class size is limited due to social distancing restrictions.

The class will be held in the hospital's Conference Room C, and participants should enter through the Medical Office Building doors. Please register online at [www.osfsaintpaul.org](http://www.osfsaintpaul.org) or contact Michelle Jones at (815) 539-1654.

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**Christmas Eve SERVICES**

Thursday, Dec. 24  
6 p.m.

**Christ's Church**

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See Local News online at  
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# LOCAL AND AREA

## EDUCATION BRIEFS

### Olivet Nazarene Univ. dean's list

BOURBONNAIS—Noah Delong of Mendota was named to the dean's list at Olivet Nazarene University during the recently completed fall 2020 semester. To qualify for inclusion on the dean's list, a student must have been enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and must have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 grading scale.

Olivet Nazarene University is an accredited Christian, liberal arts university offering more than 140 areas of undergraduate

and graduate study, including the Doctor of Education in ethical leadership. Additionally, the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies offers online education with offices and meeting spaces throughout Chicagoland and the Midwest.

### Vaessen awarded scholarship

AMES, Iowa - Natalie Vaessen of Sublette has been awarded the Marjorie McKinley Memorial Fund from the Iowa State University College of Human Sciences and its academic units. Vaessen, who is an event management major, was

recognized for exceptional academic performance.

The College of Human Sciences is pleased to support Vaessen's academic journey and pursuit of innovation in their field.

More than \$1.4 million in student scholarships are offered each year by the College of Human Sciences and its academic units, in addition to monies awarded by Iowa State at the university level. Programs in the College of Human Sciences focus on fields of study that expand human potential and improve people's lives. The college's academic units include the School of Education and four departments.

## Holland joins First State Bank board

MENDOTA—First State Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of John Holland III to its Board of Directors. Holland will fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Matt Carroll and will serve the remainder of his term.

"We are pleased to welcome John to our Board of Directors," said Tim McConville, President/CEO of First State Bank. "We look forward to working with him as we shape the future of First State Bank."

Holland is the Corporate Controller for HCC, Inc. in Mendota. He is an Air Force and National Guard Veteran and a 2001 cum laude graduate of Northern Illinois University with a double major in accounting and man-

agement. After holding several accounting positions in various industries in the suburbs, Holland was hired at his current position at HCC in 2014.

An active member of the Mendota community, Holland is a current Mendota City Council Alderman, treasurer for the Mendota Golf Club, and coach for the Holy Cross School bowling and golf teams. He resides in Mendota with his wife, Jennifer, and their two children.

"I am honored to join the Board of Directors of First State Bank," Holland said. "I look forward to contributing to First State Bank as a whole, and I am also excited to be a part of an organization that works hard to meet the needs of the communities that First State Bank serves."

With 18 branches providing financial products and services throughout North Central Illinois, First State Bank is a leader in retail and commercial banking. For further information, visit [www.firststatebank.biz](http://www.firststatebank.biz).

## Online Certified Livestock Managers Training available

STERLING—The Livestock Management Facilities Act requires Illinois livestock facilities that house more than 300 animal units to have at least one certified livestock manager.

The certificate is administered by the Illinois Department of Agriculture and is valid for three years. University of Illinois Extension provides the educational support and houses the new online certification.

Next year will mark the 25th anniversary of the Certified Livestock Managers Training program. Approximately 1,000 livestock producers have participated in each of the eight three-year cycles. Now, managers have a convenient online opportunity to complete the certification. In addition, four virtual live webinars will be held which will provide



Illinois livestock producers the manure management training they need to meet the requirements of the state's Livestock Management Facilities Act.

Online training should be considered the first, preferred option for everyone, says Jay Solomon, Extension educator. Producers take online training that consists of nine lessons. "The online training has been updated for 2021 to resemble face-to-face

workshops more closely. It is available at any time and your own pace."

Producers with less than 1,000 AUs will work through the lessons only. Having more than 1,000 AU requires completing the lessons and passing the online test. Until Dec. 1, 2021, livestock producers with more than 1,000 AUs can take the online test in lieu of the IDOA's paper-based test.

Individuals may access the online training at [go.illinois.edu/CLMT](http://go.illinois.edu/CLMT) for a cost of \$40. Any questions relating to the online program can be directed to Nesli Akdeniz at (217) 300-2644.

For a live webinar, four options are available:

**Wednesday, Jan. 20 - 9 a.m.**

**Friday, Jan. 29 - 9 a.m.**

**Tuesday, Feb. 9 - 9 a.m.**

**Thursday, March 4 - 9 a.m.**

After the webinar, those with over 1,000 AUs (animal units) will be required to log in and take the 40-question online test in lieu of the IDOA's paper-based test. Pre-registration is required (\$40). Please go to [go.illinois.edu/CLMT](http://go.illinois.edu/CLMT) to register. For questions with registration, please contact UI Extension at (815) 858-2273.

To assist in the transition, optional informational sessions will be held to demonstrate the online application. To attend an optional informational session, visit [go.illinois.edu/CLMT](http://go.illinois.edu/CLMT) and click the link provided to join at any of these times at no cost.

**Monday, Jan. 11 - 6 p.m.**

**Tuesday, Feb. 23 - 6 p.m.**

The Livestock Management Facilities Act of 1997 requires facilities with 300 or more animal units to have at least one employee certified in proper manure handling procedures. In facilities with 300 to 999 animal units, the employee either must complete online CLM training or webinar or pass the Illinois Department of Agriculture's Certified Livestock Manager online exam.

The employee of facilities with 1,000 or more units must

complete one of the training options and pass the Certified Livestock Manager online exam to achieve certification.

The Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Curriculum continues to serve as a resource manual for CLM training. The manual provides more depth and additional topics than can be covered in a webinar or online training. This curriculum is available for free online at [go.illinois.edu/manual](http://go.illinois.edu/manual).

"This partnership between the Department of Agriculture and Illinois Extension provides the tools, education, and training for our state's certified livestock managers to become skilled in best management practices," said IDOA Acting Director Jerry Costello II. "The goal is for our livestock facilities to be good neighbors and stewards of the land."

## Public invited to take IDOT traveler survey

SPRINGFIELD—The Illinois Department of Transportation is seeking feedback on the state's transportation system through its annual Illinois Traveler Opinion Survey, available now through Dec. 31. The survey is available online by visiting [idot.illinois.gov](http://idot.illinois.gov).

"Learning the public's views on our transportation system is a great tool. This information allows us to better understand travel habits as well as areas where we're doing a good job and those that may need improvements," said Acting Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. "We represent and try to meet the best interests of all Illinois citizens and individual travelers and

See IDOT, Page A4

## CARL'S QUIZ

Who is put on trial in classic Christmas movie, "Miracle on 34th Street"?

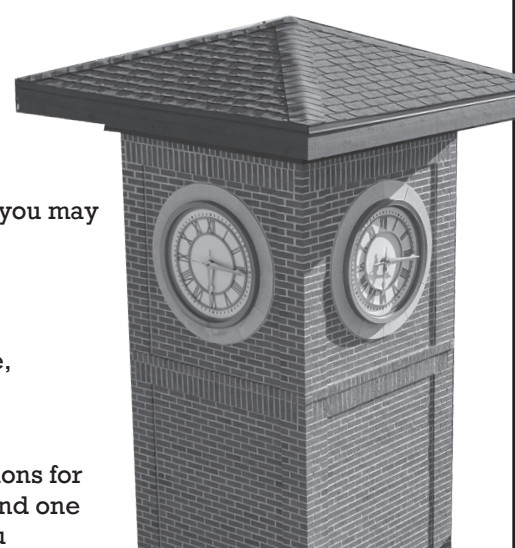
The answer to last week's quiz is: **Gingerbread houses originated in Germany during the 16th century.**

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

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## Mendota Weather

Dec. 16, 2020

### Seven Day Forecast

**Wednesday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 34 Low: 21

**Thursday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 36 Low: 25

**Friday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 40 Low: 30

**Saturday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 39 Low: 31

**Sunday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 38 Low: 27

**Monday**  
Mostly Sunny  
High: 40 Low: 31

**Tuesday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 39 Low: 29

### In-Depth Forecast

Wednesday we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 34°, humidity of 64%. North northeast wind 5 to 9 mph. The record high for Wednesday is 58° set in 1971. Expect partly cloudy skies Wednesday night, overnight low of 21°. East northeast wind 1 to 5 mph. The record low for Wednesday night is -15° set in 1989. Thursday, skies will be partly cloudy, high of 36°, humidity of 64%.

### Last Week's Local Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Monday	38	28	34/18	0.00"
Tuesday	36	32	34/18	0.00"
Wednesday	55	31	33/17	0.00"
Thursday	61R	28	33/17	0.00"
Friday	45	36	32/17	0.45"
Saturday	40	30	32/16	0.08"
Sunday	36	30	32/16	0.00"

### Regional Cities

City	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx
Aurora	35/23	mc	37/24	pc
Champaign	35/21	mc	38/24	pc
Chicago	36/27	mc	37/28	pc
Freeport	33/18	pc	34/23	pc
Joliet	35/24	mc	37/25	pc
Moline	35/21	pc	39/26	s
Peoria	36/22	pc	39/27	s
Rockford	34/21	mc	36/24	pc
Springfield	36/22	pc	39/27	s

Data as reported from Peru, Ill.

### Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
First 12/21	Wednesday 7:17 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	9:23 a.m.	6:35 p.m.
	Thursday 7:17 a.m.	4:28 p.m.	10:12 a.m.	7:43 p.m.
	Friday 7:18 a.m.	4:28 p.m.	10:51 a.m.	8:51 p.m.
	Saturday 7:18 a.m.	4:28 p.m.	11:23 a.m.	9:57 p.m.
	Sunday 7:19 a.m.	4:29 p.m.	11:50 a.m.	11:00 p.m.
Full 12/29	Monday 7:19 a.m.	4:29 p.m.	12:14 p.m.	Next Day
	Tuesday 7:20 a.m.	4:30 p.m.	12:36 p.m.	12:01 a.m.

### Local 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 to mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain and snow, highest temperature of 50 in Ocean Pines, Md. The Southeast will experience partly to mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain, highest temperature of 79 in Key Largo, Fla. The central United States will see mostly clear skies with the highest temperature of 63 in Brownsville, Texas. In the Northwest there will be partly to mostly cloudy skies with isolated rain and snow, highest temperature of 52 in Coos Bay, Ore. The Southwest will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 72 in La Mirada, Calif.

### Weather Trivia

What year was the costliest drought in U.S. history?

### Weather History

**Dec. 16, 1835** - New England experienced one of their coldest days of record. At noon on that bitterly cold Wednesday the mercury stood at four degrees below at Boston, 15 degrees below at Norfolk, Conn. and 17 degrees below at Hanover, N.H.

**Dec. 17, 1987** - A storm in the southwestern U.S. brought heavy rain and heavy snow to parts of California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah and New Mexico. Charleston, NV was blanketed with 12 inches of snow. Lake Havasu City, AZ was drenched with 2.26 inches of rain.

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# OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

## Shirley A. (McConville) Smith

MADISON, Wis. - Shirley Ann (McConville) Smith, 83, passed away peacefully surrounded by her children on Dec. 6, 2020 after a short, non-COVID-19-related stay in the hospital.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 18 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 401 S. Owen Dr., Madison, Wis. Visitors may call at the church beginning at 10 a.m. A private burial will follow the Mass.

Shirley was born Feb. 22, 1937 in Mendota to Leo and Frances McConville. She married Richard R. "Dick" Smith on Nov. 14, 1959. He preceded her in death.

Survivors include her children, Kathy (Jeff) Epping, Diane (Steve) Palmiter, Barbara (Eric) Simons and Rich (Kathy Cantwell) Smith; seven grandchildren, Griffin, Kara and Keegan Epping, Katie (Donny) James, Colleen Palmiter, and Easton and Quinn Smith; two siblings, Doris Jessen and John (Florence) McConville; her in-laws, Howard and Ginny (Smith) Schmidt and Martha Smith; and many loving, fun and crazy nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; five siblings, Mary (Jimmy) Graham, Eileen (Les) Full, Leo (Lois) McConville, Donnell (Bernice) McConville and Emmett McConville; and one brother-in-law, John Jessen.

Shirley grew up on the family farm as the youngest of eight children. She had fond memories of her youth on the farm, riding horses and attending a one-room schoolhouse for elementary school. Those formative years set the tone for her strong Irish heritage that would sustain her throughout her life. In 1956, she graduated from Mendota High School. After graduation, she attended St. Ambrose College in Davenport, Iowa, where she earned a BS in Nursing. After graduation, she married Dick and they moved to Champaign, where she worked as a nurse while Dick attended college. Another move was made to Ames, Iowa for more of Dick's schooling then a final move brought them to Madison, Wis. in 1966. Now with a young family in tow, Shirley stayed home to raise four children and volunteered countless hours at Blessed Sacrament School and Church and Edgewood High School. She also used this time to hone her skills and hobbies in sewing, quilting and antique collecting and refinishing. She could never resist stopping at an antique shop! She was an original hockey mom and laced up her skates for the annual mother-son game. As her children reached middle school, she returned to nursing and had a long and rewarding career at Dean Health Clinic and St. Mary's Hospital where her caring, kindness, and compassion were her true calling. Shirley and Dick traveled extensively and enjoyed seeing and learning about other countries and cultures. A group of special "camping friends" were among the traveling partners and their love and friendship spanned 50 years. Shirley was most proud of her family and spent as much time as possible with them on family camping vacations and annual trips to Waupaca, Wis. She rarely missed an athletic event, school play or graduation. Her greatest joy was celebrating all the accomplishments of her children and grandchildren, large or small.

Please share your memories at [www.cressfuneralservice.com](http://www.cressfuneralservice.com).



## Dorothy H. Elston

MENDOTA - Dorothy H. Elston, 95, of Mendota passed away Dec. 10, 2020 at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Visitation was held from 1-2:30 p.m. on Dec. 13 at the Wasmer Funeral Home, Mendota with masks required, social distancing observed and numbers monitored. A private family Mass of Christian Burial was held on Dec. 14 with a public graveside service following at 11 a.m. Rev. Peter Pilon officiated. Pallbearers were her grandchildren.

Dorothy was born May 17, 1925 in Mendota to Nicholas and Mabel (Kolanczik) Spanier. She married Gerald Elston on Oct. 23, 1945 at Holy Cross Church with Father Leo J. Wissing officiating. He preceded her in death in 1998.

Survivors include her children, John (Christine Brown) Elston, Mary (Alan) Russell, Anne (Phillip) Caylor and Neil (Sylvia) Elston, all of Mendota; a daughter-in-law, Elizabeth (Randy) Tucker of Michigan; her grandchildren, Deborah (Gregory) Shierling, Laura (Tony) Stinebaker, Matthew (Laura) Russell, Christopher (Kathy) Elston, Andrew (Jenni) Elston, Phillip (Emily) Elston, Aaron (Heather) Elston, Amanda (Joseph) Mirus, Jeremy (Bethany) Elston, Christie (Ryan) Devine, Todd (Rachel) Henry, and Tanya Limon; 30 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband and a son, Paul, both in 1998; one daughter, Ruth in 2017; one son, Mark in 2020; two daughters-in-law, Sarah Elston and Christine Elston; and her parents.

Dorothy graduated from Holy Cross Grade School in 1939 and from Sacred Heart Academy in Springfield in 1943. She was a lifelong member of Holy Cross Church where she sang in the choir for many years and also substituted as organist. She was a lector and served the parish in many other ways. She sang and played for funerals both at church and at the Schwarz Funeral Home. She was employed part-time as bookkeeper for the former Mendota Central Oil Co. Dorothy was a member of St. Mary's Altar Society, Friends of Graves Hume Public Library, Mendota Community Hospital Auxiliary, and Sauk Valley Humane Society. Her favorite things were music, gardening, reading mystery books, caring for various pets, and sending greeting cards to all her family and friends. As a lifelong Cubs fan, she was overjoyed when they won the World Series. Dorothy especially cherished the weekly "Coffee Klatches" with her children, grandchildren and friends.

Memorials may be directed to Holy Cross School or Mendota Area Senior Services.

Condolences may be left at [wasmerfuneralhome.com](http://wasmerfuneralhome.com).

## Elroy W. Swope

COMPTON - Elroy W. Swope, 90, of Compton, passed away December 8, 2020 at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center, Rockford.

Graveside services were held at 11 a.m. on Dec. 12 at Restland Cemetery, Mendota with Rev. Jeff Schlesinger officiating. Military rites were conducted by Mendota VFW Post 4079. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota assisted the family.

Elroy was born April 23, 1930 in Compton to Wendell and Elizabeth (Kehm) Swope. He married Elaine Kidd in rural Paw Paw.

Survivors include his wife of Compton; two daughters, Margo Ackland of Mount Morris and Wendy (John) Wenzel of Knoxville; three brothers, Donald "Doc" Swope of Compton, Marvin "Butch" Swope of Michigan and Jerald Swope of West Brooklyn; one sister, Marilyn "Toots" Ehlers of Princeton; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; an infant son, Curtis; and one sister, Lavila Archer.

Elroy was a graduate of Lee Center High School. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a self-employed contractor and farmer. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge.

Memorials may be directed to a children's charity of the donor's choice.

See additional OBITUARIES, Page B4



## Melvin F. Leffelman

DIXON - Melvin F. Leffelman, 92, of Dixon, formerly of Amboy, passed away Dec. 9, 2020 at Liberty Court Assisted Living in Dixon surrounded by family and those who cared for him.

A private family Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m. on Dec. 12 at St. Anne Catholic Church in Dixon. Burial with military honors by the Amboy American Legion was at St. Patrick Cemetery in Maytown. At a later date, there will be a memorial service for all who knew, loved and were loved by Melvin to attend.

Melvin was born Nov. 17, 1928 in Sublette to Francis and Clara (King) Leffelman. Melvin rejoins Marjorie Ely whom he married on Feb. 11, 1950 and they shared 41 years of marriage. She preceded him in death on March 17, 1991. He married Florence "Sue" Okland Morrissey on Dec. 30, 1994 in Rockford. She preceded him in death June 3, 2009.

Melvin will be loved and missed by his children, Mark "Dan" (Janelle) Leffelman of Liberty Hill, Texas, and Julie Brechon of Polo; three grandchildren, Rachel (Jordan) Plock, Miranda Leffelman of Sublette and Cordell Leffelman of Liberty Hill; one great-granddaughter, Paisley Plock; one brother, Ron (Eileen) Leffelman of Dixon; three sisters, Elaine Henkel of Mendota, Velma Quest of Sublette and Doris Latta of Amboy; three sisters-in-law, Mary Helen Leffelman of Mendota, Karen Ely of Amboy and Joann Leffelman of Sterling; and one brother-in-law, Ned (Carol) Ely of Amboy.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Robert Leffelman and Eugene "Gene" Leffelman; one son-in-law, Dennis Brechon; and six brothers-in-law, Joe Quest, Donald Henkel, John Latta, Hubert Leffelman, Gordan Ely and Dick Ely.

Melvin was a lifelong farmer in the Maytown area. He proudly served in the Army National Guard and was a member of the Amboy Lions Club and Amboy American Legion Post. He was a parishioner at St. Anne Catholic Church in Dixon and had been a 4-H leader. Melvin cherished his memories of flying his plane and riding horses in his youth. He enjoyed golfing and fishing, especially when with family and friends, and of course being a dad, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and friend. Melvin had the heart of a cowboy and the boots to match.

Memorials have been established to the Amboy American Legion and St. Anne School. Arrangements were handled by the Jones Funeral Home in Dixon.

## June D. (Klatt) Novak

EARLVILLE - June D. (Klatt) Novak, 90, of Earlville passed away Dec. 10, 2020.

Private visitation and funeral services were held at Earlville United Presbyterian Church with Pastor Del Keilman officiating. Burial was at Precinct Cemetery, Earlville. A virtual online service is also available. Arrangements were entrusted to Hanley-Turner-Eighner Funeral Home in Earlville.

June was born Dec. 19, 1929 in Earlville to Alfred and Edith (Mahan) Klatt. She married Alvin Novak of Mendota on March 28, 1948. He preceded her in death.

Survivors include her much loved family, two sons, Kevin (Momoko) Novak of Tokyo, Japan and Donald (Rita) Novak of Earlville; two daughters, Phyllis (Jack) Jordan of Port Byron and Janis Novak of Davenport, Iowa; five grandchildren, Ryan (Nicole) Novak, Brooke (Joe) Hannon, and Breana, Shawn and Justin Novak; five great-grandchildren, Evelyn, Tessa, Makenna June, Nora and Joseph Jr.; one sister, Ruth Marek of North Carolina; and numerous Jordan stepchildren and their families.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and two sisters, Millie Hepfer and Helen Vorberg.

June graduated from Earlville High School in 1947. After marrying, she and Alvin farmed on the farm where she was born. They enjoyed traveling throughout the United States and to many foreign destinations. She was a lifetime member of the United Presbyterian Church where she was very active in the choir, was a deacon, a member of UPW, and a charter member of the Mariners. She also was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and served as an election judge for many years.

Memorials may be directed to the Earlville United Presbyterian Church, the Earlville Ambulance Service, or the Ottawa Pavilion. For more information or to sign the online guest book, go to [www.EighnerFuneralHomes.com](http://www.EighnerFuneralHomes.com).



## IDOT

Continued from Page A3

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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Tax

Continued from Page A1

Madigan's comments, reported by the Chicago Sun-Times, came during a recent speaker candidate forum of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus.

Madigan, 78, has served as speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives every year since 1983, with the exception of 1995 to 1997, making his tenure the longest of any state House speaker in U.S. history.

But Madigan's support from his House Democratic caucus has splintered in recent months, following charges from federal prosecutors that allege high-ranking Commonwealth Edison officials bribed close members of Madigan's inner circle for years with lucrative no-work jobs and contracts, in exchange for favorable energy legislation.

In making his pitch to House Black caucus members, Madigan said he will provide strong leadership that might be necessary if Gov. JB Pritzker asks the Illinois General Assembly to address the budget shortfall by raising the state income tax rate — a scenario Madigan described as "very possible," according to the Sun-Times' report, which was based on a recording of the closed candidate forum.

"I'm prepared to vote for that, presuming it's the governor's request," said Madigan, D-Chicago, according to the Sun-Times.

**"I'm focused on the cuts that need to be made in state government, making sure that we're paring back as best we can, making efficiencies in state government, looking to Republican and Democratic leaders as I already have and asking them for their best ideas about what it is that we need to cut in state government."**

—Gov. JB Pritzker

Pritzker dodged a question about Madigan's statement that he would support a tax hike endorsed by Pritzker.

"I'm focused on the cuts that need to be made in state government, making sure that we're paring back as best we can, making efficiencies in state government, looking to Republican and Democratic leaders as I already have and asking them for their best ideas about what it is that we need to cut in state government," Pritzker said. "And I will say that I have not yet heard back from the leaders about what their best proposals are for what cuts need to be made. And so I'm awaiting their responses."

Durkin, of Western Springs, called on Pritzker to release the spending cuts his administration requested from each agency leader last September. Pritzker made that request in an effort to reduce the state's bill backlog, which was roughly \$7.3 billion, as of June 30, 2019. The bill backlog had reached about \$7.6 billion as of last week.

The September 2019 request by Pritzker's admin-

istration asked each Cabinet director to submit budget proposals that would reflect a 6.5 percent spending cut.

This September, Pritzker warned state agency directors to prepare for a 5 percent budget reduction this year, and a possible 10 percent cut in fiscal year 2022, which begins July 1.

When asked about whether Durkin has drafted his own proposed list of agency spending cuts, a spokesperson for Durkin said he has asked "repeatedly to begin by looking at this list of agency cuts."

In his letter to Pritzker, Durkin said he asked the governor to release the agencies' budgets reflecting a 6.5 percent cut when they spoke by phone last month.

"As of today, I have not received that document, and I am now asking again for the list of spending reductions by agency," Durkin wrote. "Speaker Madigan has stated he will work with you on another tax increase, but I hope you will respect the will of the voters and instead look to live within our means."

## Jobs

Continued from Page A1

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, new unemployment claims nationwide rose 32 percent over the prior week, to 947,504.

The number of people receiving continuing unemployment benefits has also risen. In Illinois, that number went up 14.5 percent, to 340,919, while nationally it rose 10 percent, to just under 5.8 million.

Gov. JB Pritzker declined to say whether the state's increase was due in any part to the stricter Tier 3 mitigations that went into effect Nov. 20. Those include closing bars and restaurants to indoor service, closing casinos, video gaming facilities, the-

aters and indoor recreation centers, and limiting the size of both indoor and outdoor public gatherings.

"Remember that there are a lot of things that affect employment that occurred long before just a couple of weeks ago," he said. "We've seen layoffs at major companies that were in the works for some number of months now, so I can't answer that question."

The Labor Department also reported that 26,450 people filed for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, a federally-funded program for a class of workers who don't normally qualify for traditional unemployment. But state officials have noted that the PUA program has

been fraught with fraud since its inception earlier this year and it is unclear how many of those claims are legitimate.

Meanwhile, there was only a 1 percent increase in new claims filed under the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, another federally-funded program that provides 13 weeks of additional jobless benefits for people who have exhausted their state benefits.

*(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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always inspired me to do whatever I could to do my part for The United States of America.

After high school, Martinson plans to attend a four-year university and study material engineering.

### SAR Award

Stachlewitz is the daughter of Jennifer Stachlewitz and Rusty Stachlewitz.

Her activities in high school include band (current president), choir, Interact (current president), Student Council (current president), tennis, Madrigal Jester and Drama Club.

Among her list of community and volunteer activities are starting a new sock and used coat drive through Interact called Socktober, attending the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership

seminar and subsequently volunteering for at least 100 hours of community service with the likes of the Midwest Food Bank, the Sweet Corn Festival, summer youth tennis camp, Nightengale's Thrift Shop, repainting the dugouts at the baseball field, volunteering at the Woodhaven haunted house and Salvation Army bell ringing.

In her free time, Stachlewitz works at Quilting in the Valley in LaSalle, babysitting and anything that has to do with helping and teaching children.

In her essay on the four qualities of a SAR Good Citizen (dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism), she said:

"I accept the things that I cannot change and I change the things that I cannot accept" is a part of the serenity

prayer that I find very influential in my life. It's a quote that everyone can relate to no matter what you believe in or don't believe in. In my experience, I have learned that to change the thing that I cannot accept I need to be dependable, a leader, and patriotic. One of the things that I cannot accept is the amount of children that are cold every winter due to the fact that they cannot get new coats and socks. So, I started the Socktober coat and sock drive.

After high school, Stachlewitz plans to spend a year or two at IVCC finishing her GEDs and then going to a four-year university to study speech pathology. After getting her master's degree in speech pathology, she would like to get a job in a children's hospital and help kids.

## Home

Continued from Page A1

That report also states that staff who eventually tested positive had attended a Halloween party.

When IDVA Director Linda Chapa LaVia was asked about staff attending a Halloween party during a Senate Veterans Affairs Committee hearing last month, she said that statement could not be substantiated and the information was based on "word of mouth."

The report from IDPH states that transmission among some staff "may have occurred due to reported laxity of masking and social distancing while off duty and also during break periods while on duty." As a result, "Increased monitoring has been initiated."

Thapedi said once his committee receives the first batch of documents, the members will decide whether to make additional requests to the Department of Veteran Affairs, and to the Department of Public Health.

"Depending upon what documents and what information comes out of that first round, there may be some other entities or people or organizations that have relevant information that we can obtain, all with the goal of finding out what happened. So, it's a process," Thapedi said.

The investigation by the House committee is separate from an independent investigation by the acting inspector general from the Illinois Department of Human Services, which Chapa LaVia announced two weeks ago.

Thapedi said the civil judiciary committee's investigation is also not in coordination with Rep. Stephanie Kifowit, D-Oswego, chairwoman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, who has called for an in-person committee meeting in Chicago which was to have occurred on Dec. 15.

Unlike the Senate, the House failed to pass a measure during its brief session in May that would have allowed for virtual committee hearings.

In Kifowit's Dec. 4 letter calling for the meeting, she wrote that she has no choice but to request an in-person subject matter hearing during a global pandemic, given the House's

failure to pass virtual hearings, as well as "the extreme concern and mourning of the death of 30 veterans in the LaSalle Veterans Home by myself and members of the committee."

On Dec. 7, Kifowit wrote via text message to Capitol News Illinois that the Veterans Affairs Committee's hearing will focus on the steps needed to protect residents at LaSalle. She said her committee's inquiry will examine "the failings outlined in the (U.S. VA) report, look at best practices from other facilities and veterans' homes, and work on a path through legislation to make sure situations like this never happen again."

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# OPINION

## The Mendota Reporter

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

## A 'learning difference'

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD -- The nun's ruler snapped across Anne Burke's knuckles as she struggled to form words onto a page.

Burke, who is chief justice of the Illinois Supreme Court, has come a long way from being that Chicago school girl who wanted to write from right to left.

"I didn't even know there was a name for what I was doing. My friends were getting A's and B's and I was getting C's," she said.

Growing up in the 1950s, Burke derived much of her self-worth from athletics not academics.

"Neither of my parents had gone to high school so I wasn't under a lot of pressure to get good grades. I guess I just thought I wasn't a good student. It took me a lot longer to read things than many of my peers."

It was not until she was well into adulthood that she learned that there is a name for the different way she perceived the world: dyslexia.

Dyslexia is a difficulty in learning to read or interpret words, letters, and other symbols, but it in no way affects general intelligence.

In fact, dyslexics tend to have high intelligence levels, Sally Shaywitz, a Yale University physician specializing in dyslexia, told me during a telephone interview.

Gavin Newsom, California's governor; Henry Winkler, an actor and producer; David Boies, one of the nation's top appellate lawyers; Charles Schwab, a businessman specializing in discount brokerage services; and Tim Tebow, a Heisman trophy winner and NFL quarterback are among the most well-known dyslexics.

Successful dyslexics are greatly shaped by their childhood struggles but have found coping strategies Shaywitz said.

"I was at conference and many prominent people who are dyslexics were there. Someone asked what school was like for them when they were younger and they all ended up crying," she said.

As a journalist, I can relate to the challenges Burke and others have faced. I, too, am dyslexic.

I was never struck with a ruler, but I had a third-grade teacher who would shake me like a rag doll. She was a woman who brimmed with contempt for those who struggled.

Over and over she and another third-grade teacher would say, "You just aren't trying."

If only they had known just how hard I was trying.

For me, the solution came in the form of my mother. For two years she would sit with me each day and we would read a book together. She'd read one page aloud, I'd read the next. She'd gently correct me when I mispronounced or misread a word.

Shaywitz said this approach of listening, modeling and correcting is now the gold standard for teaching dyslexics to read.

But she added that since dyslexics perceive the world differently they tend to be original thinkers with problem solving skills.

"We are risk takers," Burke said.

Burke attended college for a year but when the school moved from Chicago to a western suburb, she dropped out and began working with disabled children in the Chicago Park District, which led to her establishing the Chicago Special Olympics in 1968 and later helped expand the program into the International Special Olympics.

Burke and her husband, Ed, a Chicago alderman are licensed foster parents who have five children only one of whom is biologically theirs.

"When three of the children were young, she left her job with the park district with plans to return. Instead she went back to college and earned a degree in education from DePaul in 1976.

Four years later, her husband encouraged her to apply to law school saying she could do more for children with disabilities as a lawyer than she could through direct service.

"When you are dyslexic, you learn coping skills. I was admitted to three different law schools, but I chose Chicago-Kent (College of Law) because it was the one that didn't require an accounting class."

Math is often difficult for dyslexics because like reading it involves the interpretation of symbols, numbers and letters.

In 1987, Burke was appointed to the Illinois Court of Claims. In 1995, she became an appellate judge and 2006 she joined the state supreme court.

It's an intriguing career path for someone who early on had trouble reading.

"Reading law cases is like reading stories or novels. I find it fascinating to learn the circumstances with each case," she said.

I've read many of Burke's decisions over the years. They are well reasoned and well written.

But what strikes me as most significant about Burke is her empathy for others. Her struggle to learn not only has made her a better judge, but a better person. It may well explain her desire to help disabled children through the Special Olympics and foster care.

She dislikes the word "disability."

"I say 'learning difference.' Dyslexia is just a different way of perceiving the world. It's helped me gain problem-solving skills and take risks that others might never consider."

(Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist and a freelance reporter. ScottReeder1965@gmail.com.)



## Center controversy continues – 1984

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from Dec. 15, 2004.)

By Jessica Nashold

That was the banner head when The Mendota Reporter appeared on Dec. 12, 1984. A floor plan for a proposed community center, prepared by the AEC Group, was shown on the front page. The group had been hired by the city to prepare an application for a state grant. Under terms of Dora Feik's will, the City of Mendota was to match her legacy by double the amount, and construct a community building with special provisions for the elderly. Acting Mayor James Strouss said a committee had been meeting for 10 months, discussing ways to comply with the conditions of the bequest.

A site near Lake Mendota seemed to be favored for the proposed building. However, Marmion property near the swimming pool was gaining support.

Rolan Killian represented the AEC Group at a Dec. 12, 1984 public meeting. It was attended by 70, and although public comment had been sparse previously, many points of view were aired on this occasion. On Dec. 17, 1984, more opinions were expressed at the Mendota City Council meeting. Editor Flint Stephens used space to indicate he favored a referendum. Acting Mayor Strouss and others opposed this approach. At this meeting, the council approved payment of \$12,710 to the AEC Group for work "thus far," in preparing the application for a state grant.

One objection to the Marmion offer was that it would necessitate buying 12 acres. This would diminish the amount available for construction of the center.

The annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count was scheduled for Dec. 13 to January 3. Those desiring to participate could take part by contacting Vernon Klein at the Department of Conservation in Springfield.

**There is a \$2 fee, and participants will receive a copy of the count.**

The MHS board approved addition of Word Processing Instruction to the school curriculum. The course would be especially helpful to college-bound students.

### Backtracks & Sidetracks

**Two MHS faculty members are qualified to teach Word Processing.**

Mendota Chapter BV of the PEO Sisterhood marked its 60th anniversary in December 1984. Pictured on the occasion were Mrs. Paul Stenger, the only charter member, Mrs. B. Harry Reck, first to be inducted, Mrs. Leroy Faber, Mrs. Harry Schaller, Mrs. Julius Schaller, Miss Lois Moore, Mrs. E.C. Jasper and Mrs. A.E. Claus.

**All have been members for 50 years or more.**

LeBistro on Route 51 advertised Friday night after shopping: meals, from 6-10 p.m. Meals were \$4.95. From 10-11:30 p.m. Sandwiches were available at \$2.49.

A holiday special at Kitch-Inn (formerly Mendota Candy Kitchen) featured Peanut Brittle at \$2.49 a pound and coconut brittle at \$2.79.

**Sample before you buy.**

Abby Marie Angelotti was the first child born in December 1984 at Mendota Community Hospital. She was taken home in a Christmas stocking made by Lila Maciejewski.

**All December babies born at MCH will arrive home in the same fashion. An Auxiliary project.**

The Mendota Chapter of the American Red Cross announced it would begin soliciting donations to the African Famine Relief Fund in January 1985.

**The famine in Ethiopia had been much in the news.**

Caterpillar layoffs, which had numbers 2,459 in October, continued in

December. In December 1984, there were 660 layoffs in Joliet, Davenport, Iowa, and York, Pa.

Eben and Norma Campbell applied for early retirement in December 1984. Eben Campbell had been involved with music in Mendota schools for 32 years.

**He will direct his final Christmas concert on Dec. 20, 1984.**

Norma Campbell had been teaching in Mendota for 19 years most recently at Northbrook. She had accompanied many of her students to state competitions, where they had excelled.

In 1984, 17 stores were open from noon until 4 p.m. on Sundays in December. This was to accommodate Christmas shoppers. They were Ace Hardware, Barr's Shoes, Classon's Super Foods, Coast-to-Coast, Donna's Hallmark, Erbes Clothing, Fact-N-Fancy, Goslin Drug Store, Holdenrid's Shoes, Kaleel's Clothing, Mendota Sport Shop, Nome's Apparel, Penny Pincher, Smith's Flowers, The Phone Store, Wayside Furniture and Western-man's.

**Five of these stores were still serving customers in 2004.**

The Homemakers Extension Association featured Brazil in its Dec. 11, 1984 meeting at the Baptist church. Fannie Kessler and LaVerne Shaffer presented a program on the history of Brazil and its customs. Hostesses were Jane Scheidenhelm, Bernice Whitmore and Claire Walker.

Girl Scouts added a new level of enrollment for 5-year-olds. They were called Daisy Girl Scouts in honor of the founder, Juliette Lowe.

**Daisy was her childhood nickname.**

The Mendota Reporter featured a Birthday Game in December 1984. Entry forms were published in which to record the issues in which readers had found the month and date of their birth. A drawing would determine the winner of a \$200 first prize and two additional prizes of \$25 each.

## The economic cruelty of the pandemic

By Rich Lowry

Just when it seemed some of the most disheartening trends in the U.S. economy were finally beginning to reverse, COVID-19 arrived to entrench them.

The pandemic has been a neutron bomb targeted at the prospects of lower income working people. They had finally begun to benefit from the recovery from the Great Recession when the virus ravaged sectors of the economy that disproportionately employ them.

The Washington Post has called the resulting economic damage "the most unequal recession in modern U.S. history." As the paper puts it, starkly, "the less workers earned at their job, the more likely they were to lose it."

The pandemic has hammered restaurants, hotels and places of entertainment, all of which don't pay high wages and tend to employ women and minorities. It has cut a swath through small business. It has slammed workers who can't retreat to home offices for Zoom calls.

In short, it has taken all of the tendencies of our knowledge economy that benefit the better-educated and disadvantage non-college-educated workers and has made them more pronounced, amidst a public health crisis that has also hit the most vulnerable the hardest.

According to a Gallup Poll earlier this year, 71% of people in the top income quintile said they were working from home, whereas 45% of people in the bottom quintile stayed at home and were unable to work.

A National Bureau of Economic Research working paper published in May found that workers in high-proximity jobs impossible to perform from home tend to be "less educated, of lower income, have fewer liquid assets relative to income, and are more likely renters." Workers in such jobs were more likely to become unemployed.

Jobs at the top have bounced back since the spring and affluent people might have more wealth than ever, given the increase in home values and a frothy stock market.

The story is different further down the income scale. According to The Washington Post analysis, Hispanic Americans experienced the sharpest loss in employment with the onset of the pandemic. The young were particularly hard-hit; 20% of those ages 20-24 lost their jobs. Mothers with children ages 6-12, called upon to fill the gaps created by school closings, have been another hard-hit group.

Similarly, mom-and-pop businesses have fared poorly. A survey by Alignable, a small business social network, found nearly 50% of small businesses say they are generating less revenue than they need to stay in business, with travel businesses, gyms and beauty salons at particular risk.

Mass vaccination next year should take the edge off of this economic dislocation, but it's harder to create than destroy. The Federal Reserve estimates that employment won't fully bounce back until 2023.

What is to be done? Policymakers need to realize that when they promulgate COVID-19 restrictions, they are asking the people with the least economic margin for error to sacrifice the most. Congress needs to pass a new stimulus bill to cushion the blow of a natural disaster that has immiserated many millions of people through no fault of their own. And the incoming Biden administration ideally would realize that fashionable causes like climate change need to take a back seat to the pursuit of full economic recovery.

The economic pain is not the worst that the pandemic has wrought, but it cannot be ignored.

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

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# Who's That Santa?

While shopping, try to figure out which Santa works in which business! They won't have on their Santa hats or be wearing a beard, but they will be in the business and could be helping you!!

**CASH PRIZES: First Place \$30**  
**Second Place \$20 • Third Place \$10**

1

2

3

4

5

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14

15

SANTA #	BUSINESS & EMPLOYEE
_____	City of Mendota - Tim Kimrey
_____	Dirty Dawgs - Ethyl
_____	Eureka Savings Bank - Ann Lauer
_____	Financial Plus Credit Union - Jennifer Truckenbrod
_____	First State Bank - Evan Wixom
_____	First State Insurance - Brandon Pezanoski
_____	Floralcrest Florist & Greenhouse - Carol
_____	Main St. Station - Joanne McNally
_____	Maze Lumber - Patty Hennessey
_____	Mendota Companion Animal Centre - Rev
_____	Meyers Furniture - Dale Meyers
_____	Special Body & Paint - Dennis Bodmer
_____	State Farm Insurance - Kurt Bruno
_____	Sullivan's Foods - Jason Finkboner
_____	Triple Service Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Electric - Michelle Wade

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

This entry blank must be received by Wednesday, Dec. 30 at 4 p.m.. Mail or drop off your entry at: The Mendota Reporter, 703 Illinois Avenue, P.O. Box 300 Mendota, IL 61342. The winner will be the one who correctly identifies the most Santas. If more than one person has the most correct answers, the winner will be randomly drawn from those entries. Correct answers will appear in the Jan. 6 issue.



# SPORTS

## Hunters bag 29,432 during second firearm weekend; 76,579 total

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) announced a preliminary total of 76,579 deer were taken by hunters during the seven-day 2020 Illinois Firearm Deer Season that concluded on Sunday, Dec. 6. A final total of 75,417 deer were harvested during the firearm season in 2019.

The preliminary harvest for the second segment of the firearm season (Dec. 3-6) was 29,432, compared with 25,176 during the second

season in 2019. The preliminary harvest for the first segment of this year's firearm season (Nov. 20-22) was 47,147 deer.

Remaining 2020-21 deer season hunting opportunities in Illinois in the weeks ahead include:

- The Late-Winter Antlerless-Only Deer Season and CWD Deer Season (in

designated counties only) will be on two upcoming weekends - Dec. 31, 2020-Jan. 3, 2021 and Jan. 15-17, 2021;

- The Archery Deer Season continues through Jan. 17, 2021.

Details on the Late-Winter season are available on the IDNR website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/hunting/Documents/2020-2021%20Late%20Winter%20Hunting%20Information.pdf>

Details on the CWD season are available on the website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/hunting/Documents/2020-2021%20Special%20CWD%20Season%20Hunting%20Information.pdf>

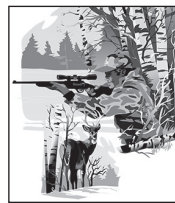
son%20Hunting%20Information.pdf

A map showing the counties open to the Late-Winter and CWD seasons can be found at: [https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/programs/CWD/Documents/Late\\_Winter\\_CWD\\_Map.pdf](https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/programs/CWD/Documents/Late_Winter_CWD_Map.pdf)

For more deer hunting information, visit: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/hunting/Pages/DeerHunting.aspx>

Preliminary Firearm Deer Season harvest totals in area counties for the second season are:

Bureau — 366; DeKalb — 36; LaSalle — 232; Lee — 198; Ogle — 241; Putnam — 113; Whiteside — 186.



## Have a Joyous Holiday Season!

### Specialty BODY & PAINT

1503 W. Washington St.  
Mendota • 815-539-7801



## Leffelman & Associates says...



VOTE for our tree on the Sublette 365 Facebook page!

Click the LIKE button by our tree to vote before December 25!

**LEFFELMAN & ASSOCIATES INC.**  
Our Family Protecting Your Family

Like us on facebook

P.O. BOX 349, Sublette, IL 61367  
Sublette 849-5219  
LaMoille 638-2171 • Amboy 857-2125

12142020

## Happy Holidays

from your friends at...



### ZIGGIE'S

FAMILY RESTAURANT

Est. 1972

We Will be Closing at 2 p.m. on December 24, Closed on Christmas Day & Reopening at 6 a.m. on December 26.

1212 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Mendota • Phone: (815)539-5060

## Christ the Lord is Born



We wish all of our wonderful customers a truly holy Christmas season.

**SPORTS-N-STUFF INC.**

804 WASHINGTON  
MENDOTA • 539-6354

## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

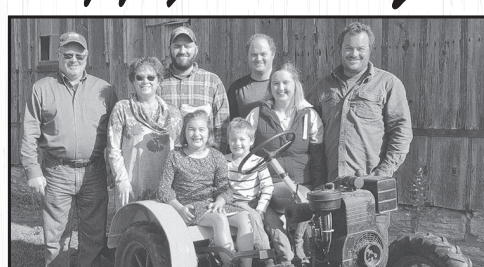
from all of us at  
**BECKER AUCTION SERVICE**

Thank you for the past year's business and attending our auctions.

LaMoille  
(815) 638-2686

12172018

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



From all of us at  
**Mauch Carpentry Inc. & Northern Illinois Seamless Roofing**  
705 Illinois Ave., Mendota  
539-7867 or 539-5142

12142020



## Customers Like You Lift Our Spirits All Year Long!

Thanks for making this year so much fun for us. We look forward to taking care of you in the New Year. Happy Holidays & Best Wishes!

**ARS AUTO REPAIR INC.**  
815-538-2412



307 Plaza Dr. • Mendota  
815-538-2412



12112019

## Merry Christmas from all of us at Schimmers!

Route 251 S. • Mendota • (815) 539-9343



## \$1 off McCafe Drink

Includes Medium Milk Shake and Medium Hot Chocolate.  
(Excludes Premium Roast Coffee and Hot Tea.)

Expires 02/05/21. Valid only at participating U.S. McDonald's. Prices may vary. Not valid with any other offer, discount, coupon or combo meal. Cash value 1/20 of 1 cent. Limit one coupon per person per visit. Tax may apply. Price of required purchase posted on menu board. Coupon may not be transferred, auctioned, sold or duplicated in any way or transmitted via electronic media. Valid when product served. May not be valid for custom orders. Void where prohibited. © [2020] McDonald's



TWO MENDOTA LOCATIONS

2701 12th St.  
1503 13th Ave.  
Locally Owned and Operated  
Paul & Mary Breznay



12142020



In the spirit of the season, we extend our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for choosing Central Bank.



**Central Bank**  
ILLINOIS  
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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

# Simply Brilliant

May your holiday shine brightly with joy and good fortune that continue throughout the New Year.

We wish you and yours all the best at this special time. Thank you for putting your trust in us.



**Mendota Mutual Insurance Company**  
1019 Main St., P.O. Box 498 • Mendota • (815) 539-3426  
www.mendotamutual.com  
Your Home Town Property Insurance Company

12162020



## Holiday Gift Guide

**There's no place like Home for the Holidays!**  
Wherever you celebrate, we hope your home for the holidays is filled with warmth, happiness and that special spirit of Christmas!



Stop in and see Patty & Nicole today!

Since 1848

**MAZE LUMBER**  
www.mazelumber.com  
Water Street, Peru • 815-223-1742

WOODHARBOR  
Custom Cabinetry

## Looking for a truly "Mendota" gift?

**Mendota Area Chamber Gift Certificates!**  
Mendota Shops offer a large and varied array of gift giving ideas for everyone on your Christmas List. **Puzzled?** Wondering what to get those hard to buy for relatives, friends and fellow employees? How about Mendota Area Chamber Gift Certificates! They can be made for any denomination and they are always the right size and color! The Certificates may be purchased at the Chamber office.

Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce  
Gift Certificate  
No Expiration Date

Date, Dec. 1, 2020  
\$15.00

**Mrs. Jane Doe**  
Fifteen and 00/100.....Dollars  
Presented by The Johnson Family

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



MGG2020

**Great Holiday Gifts!**  
Large Variety of Gift Baskets



1102 Meriden St., Mendota  
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**Great Deals, Great Service Since 1926**



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Over 90 Years Serving Our Communities

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## Shop Local & WIN!

**2020 Participating Businesses**


4M Graphix  
Advanced Auto Parts  
ARS Auto Repair Specialists  
August Hill Winery & Illinois Sparkling Co.  
Beck's BP Rt. 251  
Casey's General Store  
Cindy's on 34  
Cute Nails  
CVS/pharmacy  
De La O's  
Dr. Tara Van De Wyngaerde O.D., P.C.  
El Rey Del Taco  
El Zarape

Expressions Nail Salon  
Floralcrest Inc.  
Head Hunter Salon & Day Spa  
JC's Headquarters  
Lakeside Liquors  
Lube Cube Plus  
Main Street Station  
Mauch Carpentry, Inc.  
McDonald's  
Mendota Area Y  
Mendota Elks Lodge #1212  
Mendota Moose Family Center  
Mendota Shell  
Mendota Sport Shop  
Moore Tires

Nightingale's Thrift Shop  
Parkway Restaurant  
Pizza's by Marchelloni  
Pohl's Office Supply  
Purpose Nutrition  
Road Ranger  
Rosati's Pizza Pub  
Sew Quiltable  
Specialty Body & Paint  
Sports-N-Stuff  
Stephenitch Do It Best Hardware  
Subway  
Subway I 39  
Sullivan's Foods  
Sullivan's Ace Hardware

Taco Madre  
The Mendota Reporter  
Triple Service Plumbing, Heating, Cooling & Electric  
Uncle Joe's  
Walter Bros. Plumbing, Heating, & Cooling  
Ziggie's Family Restaurant

**Santa Says,**  
**"Shop Locally!"**



MGG2020





# THE BACK PAGE

## CARDS OF THANKS

It is with utmost appreciation that we thank our family and friends for the outpouring of love, prayers and support we've received the past several weeks. Our deepest gratitude to Fr. Pilon for his prayers, assistance and support for our family. We thank Mary's caregivers, without whom we would not have been able to give her the attention, love and care in the comfort of our home. We also wish to thank the OSF Hospice team for their vigilance and excellent, gentle and loving care and guidance through this difficult time. We would be remiss if we did not express our gratitude to Catherine Wasmer and the Mendota Monument Company. Our deepest gratitude for their assistance and willingness to spring into action with their professionalism and compassion. We thank everyone for cards, expressions of sympathy, memorials and prayers. You have touched our hearts and lives. May God bless you for your countless acts of kindness.

**The family of**  
**Mary K. Sondgeroth**  
**Bob Sondgeroth**  
**John and Pat Sondgeroth**  
**Susan and Jeff Spanier**  
**Rosemary Cashner**

**Advertise in**  
**The Reporter**  
**and get results!**

## BLESSED EVENTS

**BECK F. FABER**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Cole Faber (Katy Henkel) of LaMoille are parents of **Beck Frederick**, born Nov. 25, 2020, at OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 15 ounces. Maternal grandparents are Dennis and Diane Henkel of West Brooklyn. Paternal grandparents are Glenn and Jane Faber of LaMoille. Maternal great-grandparents are Elaine Henkel of Mendota and Patricia Malach of Sublette. Paternal great-grandparents are Fred and Aleta Faber of LaMoille.

## POLICE BLOTTER

**WARRANT ARREST**  
 Robert Botello, 44, of 807 Third Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 9:20 p.m. Dec. 8 on a valid LaSalle County warrant for failure to appear on a charge of domestic battery. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

**WARRANT ARREST**  
 Connor J. Carreon, 27, of 812 Main St., Apt. 11, Mendota, was arrested at 10:48 p.m. Dec. 12 on a valid LaSalle County warrant for failure to appear on a charge of aggravated battery. The subject posted bond and was released with a LaSalle County court date.

## HAPPINESS IS

**Happiness is...**  
 Over 400 books in the hands of children this weekend because of your generous gifts.

**Happiness is...**  
 A librarian and her staff who are dedicated to literacy in Mendota and continue this program every year. What a blessing.

## Burn Ordinance

**MENDOTA** – It is unlawful to burn any materials other than small and dried quantities of branches, leaves, weeds or grass at any time. The burning of any material such as rubber, tires, leather, tar paper, old batteries or any material that emits an offensive odor when burned is unlawful within the city limits of Mendota.

Limited amounts of yard waste material may be burned provided the material is dry and does not create an offensive odor, nuisance or fire hazard due to excessive high winds. Combustible yard waste material may be kindled from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays only. All fires must be constantly tended by a competent person, until such fire is properly extinguished. The continued smoldering of slow-burning combustible yard waste after 4 p.m. is a nuisance and anyone kindling such a fire that will emit obnoxious odors after 4 p.m. will be considered performing an unlawful act. Burning on Sunday by commercial establishments shall be considered an unlawful act.

## With Bright Wishes at The Holidays

Wishing all our friends, neighbors, patients and associates a holiday season filled with lots of bright smiles and laughter.



**Mendota Dental Center**  
 Ernesto A. Villalobos, DDS, MS, LLC  
 1318 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342  
 Phone: 815-539-3000  
 Fax: 815-539-3001  
 mendotadentalcenter@gmail.com

*Welcoming our newest agent*  
**Abigail Vaessen!**

Abigail is a Sublette native and loves being part of such a small and close knit community. Through her comprehensive education at Eureka College she has a great amount of experience with Marketing, Communication, and Digital Media Design. She strives to bring out the creative side in real estate and provide top notch results through professional videography and photography services. Her goal is to ensure that all of her clients have a fun, exciting, and stress free real estate transaction. She cannot wait to jump in and start servicing our area.  
 Give her a call of all of your Real Estate needs at (815) 508-9715.

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 815-535-6295  
 www.Erbes-Realty.com

**We wish you a Merry Christmas from your friends at First State Bank**

**FIRST STATE BANK**

**firststatebank.biz | 800.362.9623**

f t i | Member FDIC

## We're So Ho-Ho-Grateful!



Thank you for believing in us! It has been our pleasure to serve this community in 2020, and we wouldn't be here without your kind support.  
 We hope your Christmas is merry and bright in every way, and we look forward to seeing you again soon in the New Year!

**STEPHENITCH**



*Locally owned & operated since 1893!*

1200 13th Ave.  
 Mendota, IL  
 815-539-9394

12142020

## Be Together. Be Safe. Be Happy.

**Wishing You & Your Family a Merry Christmas & a Happy, Healthy New Year.**  
 Your Friends at St. Margaret's Health



St. Margaret's Health

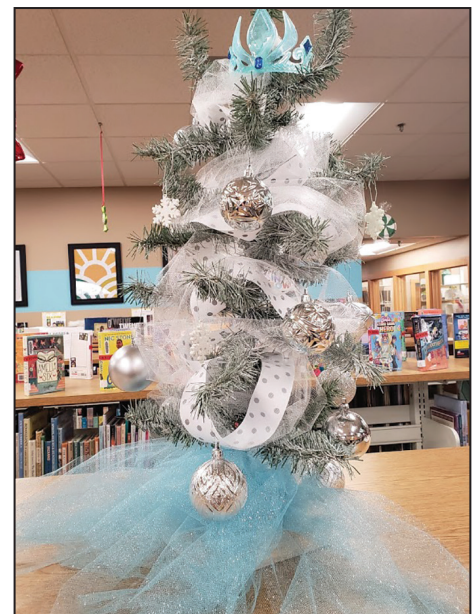
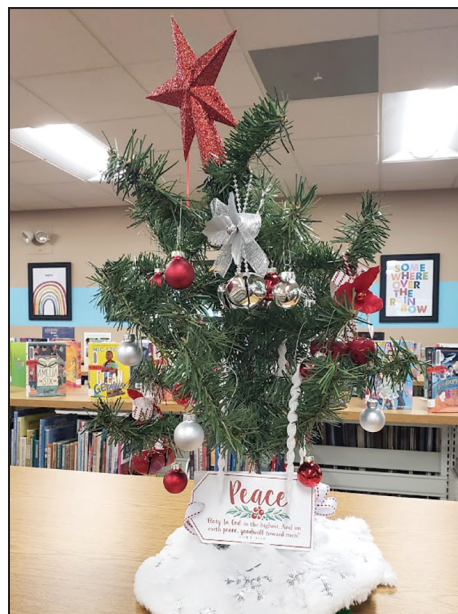
SMP Health System

aboutsmh.org





# SOCIAL SCENE



## Vote for your favorite tree at Graves-Hume Public Library

MENDOTA - The trees have been decorated and now it is time for everyone to vote. Friends of the Library invites the community to stop by Graves-Hume Public Library in Mendota to vote for their favorite decorated Christmas tree. Each of the trees has been uniquely decorated.

"I love seeing the trees come in. Each tree is so different

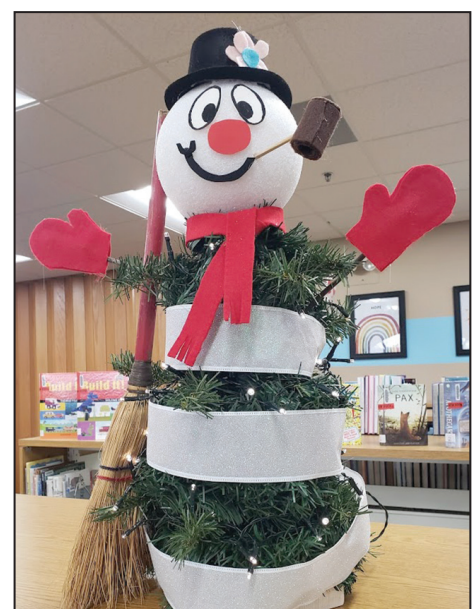
and represents each creator," says Emily Kofoed, director.

This is a fundraiser for the Friends of the Library. Voting is done using money. Every penny is one vote, every dollar is 100 votes. All proceeds will help Friends of the Library provide future library programs. The Friends Group is a separate, charitable entity that supports the Library in monetary

donations for books and programs not in the Library's budget.

Voting ends on Wednesday, Dec. 23 and the winners will be announced on Dec. 28.

The grand prize winner will receive a \$30 Mendota Chamber Gift Card and the second-place winner will be awarded a \$20 Mendota Chamber Gift Card.



## Old Lee County Courthouse in Dixon closed until February

### • Essential business will still be conducted

DIXON - Because of the rising cases of COVID-19 in the Lee County area and in an attempt to mitigate the transmission of this virus, the Old Lee County Courthouse was closed to the public as of Dec. 14. The closure is expected to last until Feb. 1, 2021.

Essential business will continue to be conducted by staff. The public is reminded that there are many ways in which both essential and non-essential business can be conducted either electronically, by telephone or by mail, in conformance with recommendations by

Lee County Health Department Director Cathy Ferguson-Allen.

Additionally, signs will be posted on the south (main) entry door to the Old Courthouse, as well as the county's website, with department names and associated contact numbers for the convenience of the public.

This new procedure will remain

in effect until Feb. 1, 2021 or until the risk of exposure decreases.

Lee County Sheriff John Simonon is asking for everyone's cooperation during this unique time in our lives. The environment is rapidly changing making it important that citizens follow the advice of local, regional, state and national health care professionals.

"While this safety challenge is global in nature, we have all experienced the disruption to our daily lives," he said. "Law enforcement will continue to work around the clock with our partners in the health care sector and in coordination with our elected officials to implement policies that support the health and safety of the public."

**Merry Christmas**  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Candy canes and boughs of holly,  
Festive scenes that make us jolly.  
The Christmas season is finally here,  
Bringing with it joy and cheer;  
And on that note, the time is due,  
to share best wishes with all of you.  
May Your Season Be Blessed and Happy!

**Stonecroft Village**  
A Retirement Community

1700 Burlington St., Mendota • 815-538-5300

**There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays**

Thank you for making us feel so welcome here. We can't think of anywhere else we'd rather be at Christmastime and all year. Merry Christmas everyone!

**SULLIVANS FOODS**

1102 Meriden St., Mendota  
(815) 539-9341

**A subscription to The Mendota Reporter makes a great Christmas gift!**

And to help brighten up the season, we are offering  
**\$5 OFF**  
the purchase price of a 1-year subscription!

In-Area 1-year price.....	\$52
(includes Bureau, LaSalle, Lee counties)	
Take \$5 OFF	
<b>Your price .....</b>	<b>\$47</b>
<hr/>	
Out-of-Area 1-year price.....	\$72.35
Take \$5 OFF	
<b>Your price .....</b>	<b>\$67.35</b>

Subscriptions also include free access to our eEdition!

(Offer good for current & new subscribers. Offer expires Dec. 31, 2020.)

Subscriber name \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

(Clip coupon and send payment to address below.)

**The Mendota Reporter**

703 Illinois Ave., PO Box 300, Mendota, IL 61342  
815-539-9396

## Expressions of gratitude lift spirits, says Ball State professor

MUNCIE, Ind. - While concerns about COVID-19 and other issues might have people feeling stressed this holiday season, a dose of gratitude could be the boost families need to lift spirits, according to a Ball State University professor.

"Gratitude is a sincere expression of thankfulness and appreciation," said Jill Walls, a professor of early childhood youth and family studies in Teachers College. "When we step into a grateful mindset, it increases our positive perceptions of our lives."

Researchers report a connection between gratitude and higher levels of happiness, life satisfaction, and health for people of all ages, including those with pre-existing health conditions, Walls notes.

"It literally uplifts our mood, which can strengthen our immune system, among other benefits," she said. "It feels good to be appreciated; a genuine expression of gratitude can motivate future behavior and enhance relationships."

Walls has several suggestions to cultivate gratitude this holiday season:

**Write letters:** Children and adults can send letters of gratitude to family and friends. There's something special about receiving a handwritten note of appreciation. If children are too young to write, ask them to draw a picture to symbolize their gratitude.

**Start a gratitude journal:** Even if what a person writes is not shared with other people, expressing gratitude in written form generates a positive mindset. Reading notes of gratitude can lift your mood.

See SPIRITS, Page B4



# TRI-COUNTY NEWS

## Five generations

Five generations of the Billhorn family gathered recently at the family farm that has been owned by the Billhorns since 1850. Left to right, are Terry, Ryder and Renee Billhorn of Texas, and Mick and Dale Billhorn of LaMoille. (Photo contributed)



## PAW PAW

### Paw Paw Village Board meeting report

PAW PAW - The Paw Paw Village Board met on Dec. 9.

Board members learned that 135 people took part in the drive-through COVID testing conducted at the Community Center by the Lee County Health Department on Nov. 19.

**Village Elections** - Petitions are available for the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election. Candidates can pick up and file petitions with the village clerk at 362 Chicago Road, Paw Paw. Petitions are for village president (4-year term), three village trustees (4-year term), and one village trustee position (2-year unexpired term).

Petitions may be filed at the village office Dec. 14, 16, 17, 18 and 19 between 8 a.m.

and noon and Dec. 15 from 1:30-6 p.m. The last day to file a petition is Monday, Dec. 21 by 6 p.m. All candidates must reside within Paw Paw Village limits.

**Library Trustees** - Petitions for library trustee are available at the Paw Paw Library and may be filed there Dec. 14-21 during operating hours. Current hours are Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon. Any questions, please call the library at (815) 627-9396 or stop in.

**Ordinance** - The Village Board passed an ordinance that amended the serving/purchase time for alcohol from 10 a.m. to 8 a.m. on Sundays.

## Dreaming of a Green Christmas

Christmas is coming, and we hope you're on course for a great holiday season! May your days be merry and bright, and your New Year happy and healthy.



**Mendota GOLF CLUB**  
US 34 West, Mendota • 815-538-7241

**HAPPY Holidays**

Just an old-fashioned greeting to wish our valued friends and customers good cheer, along with a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

We thank you for shopping locally and choosing us!

**Mendota Ford**

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12162019

Hope it's festive,  
Hope it's bright,  
Hope your holiday  
is a total delight!

**With Thanks to  
Our Friends & Customers  
at Christmastime**

**PURPOSE**

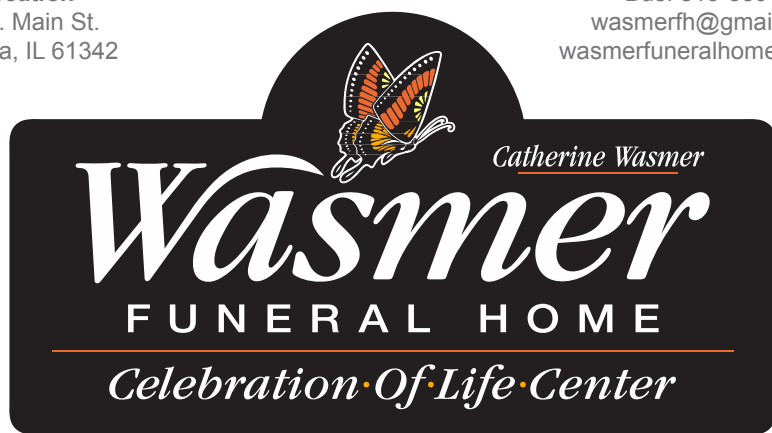
**NUTRITION**

1108 Meriden St., Mendota • 815-503-3853

12162020

**New Location**  
2112 W. Main St.  
Mendota, IL 61342

Bus: 815-539-8500  
wasmerfh@gmail.com  
wasmerfuneralhome.com



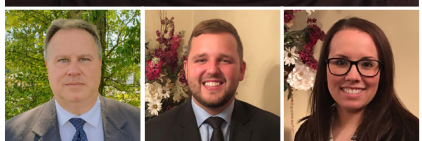
**CELEBRATING LIFE**  
and healing grieving hearts

It's Time  
to plan  
to honor  
to heal



When you have experienced the loss of a loved one, you can trust Wasmer Funeral Home to guide you through the process of honouring life. At Wasmer Funeral Home, we pride ourselves on serving families in Mendota and the surrounding areas with dignity, respect, and compassion. Our staff is experienced in a variety of funeral services and can help you celebrate your loved one no matter your religion, culture, or budget.

**Catherine Wasmer, Director**  
Cell: 815-228-6260



Don Shields Director/Associate  
Hayden Hurst Director/Associate  
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Your every need handled by a licensed professional.

**NEW LOCATION - 2112 W. Main St., Mendota, IL 61342**

**ENGLERT LeafGuard** is the permanent, clog-free gutter solution!\*

\*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free



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- THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH



**Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!**

**85% OFF LABOR\*\***

**PLUS RECEIVE A \$25 LOWE'S GIFT CARD**



WITH FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE!†

\*\*Does not include cost of material. Expires 12/31/20. †All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 12/31/20.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

**Q:** When will Alex Trebek's final episodes of the game show "Jeopardy!" air? I want to make sure I don't miss them. -- **C.K.**



A. Trebek

**A:** Alex Trebek passed away from pancreatic cancer in early November, but he forged ahead during his struggle with the disease and filmed many episodes of the syndicated game show. From Dec. 21-28, "Jeopardy!" will air 10 of its most classic episodes. The following week, beginning Jan. 4, 2021, viewers will get to see Trebek's final new episodes.

Then starting Jan. 11, Ken Jennings, one the show's greatest champions, will guest host. Other hosts will step in shortly thereafter, but the names have yet to be announced.

According to "TVGuide," executive producer Mike Richards said that "Alex believed in the importance of 'Jeopardy!' and always said that he wanted the show to go on after him."

\*\*\*

**Q:** Whatever happened to Rachel Griffiths from "Six Feet Under"? I was watching

reruns of the series on HBO and realized I haven't seen her in anything since, which surprises me because she's a really fantastic actress. -- **B.M.**

**A:** Australian actress Rachel Griffiths first gained attention in the mid-'90s in the independent film "Muriel's Wedding" opposite another breakout star from Down Under, Toni Collette. In 2001, she was cast in the critically acclaimed "Six Feet Under," about a family who runs a funeral home. After its run, Griffiths landed another successful series, "Brothers & Sisters," opposite Calista Flockhart. Since then she's been working steadily, just not in series that have lasted more than one season.

Things could be changing though. She's now starring in "Total Control," a new series on the SundanceNow streaming service, playing an Australian prime minister who drafts an indigenous woman (played by Deborah Mailman) into the senate. The show has won several AACTA (Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Awards) honors. I know the last thing most people want is to pay for another monthly steaming service, but the good news is that SundanceNow is less than \$7 a month.

\*\*\*

**Q:** I was so sad to hear about the death of the actor who played Squiggy on "Laverne & Shirley." I know "Laverne" passed too, but are "Shirley" and "Lenny" still alive? -- **T.T.**

**A:** Yes, sadly, David L. Lander, passed away this month at the age of 73 due to complications from his long battle with multiple sclerosis. He played the hilariously bothersome Squiggy on the classic sitcom "Laverne & Shirley" from 1976 to 1983. Penny Marshall (Laverne) passed two years ago at the age of 75 from complications from diabetes.

Cindy Williams (Shirley) and Michael McKean (Lenny) are, thankfully, still with us and are still gainfully employed in Hollywood. McKean and Lander actually had a hand in the creation of Lenny and Squiggy, having invented the greasers while doing improv as students at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh before the sitcom was born. They were hired as writers for the show and recreated the duo for television.

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

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## Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

**HOLLYWOOD** -- 'Tis the season of giving, unless you are "America's Got Talent" or "American Idol" or "The Voice"! When Howie Mandel says repeatedly, "I don't know if this is a \$1,000,000 act," he's absolutely right. In fact, the winning prize is nothing near \$1 million!



H. Mandel

You may have read the disclaimer that appears with every show that says the \$1 million prize will be paid to the winner over a 40, yes, 40-year period. That means autistic and blind season 14-winner Kodi Lee, 24 when he won, would not receive his last payment until he is 64. According to Forbes Magazine, "The million-dollar lump sum would certainly be less than half a million dollars ... before taxes are even deducted. If a winner wants 40 payments over four decades, they could receive \$25,000 yearly ... before taxes."

In "America's Got Talent's" defense, it makes all this completely clear to contestants prior to the competition. The winner and some of the top contenders do get to play a special engagement in Las Vegas at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino. Ventriloquists Terry Fator and Grace VanderWaal have been the most successful winners.

"American Idol" is not innocent either. In 2019, winner Laine Hardy won a record deal with Hollywood Records, a \$125,000 prize for winning and another \$125,000 on completing an album within four months. The deal may include as many as six albums, and while recording they allegedly receive \$1,000 a week to cover living expenses and an additional \$1,000 for every master completed and turned in. The contestant also receives a \$300,000 advance for recording their album, which they are expected to pay back with album sales in addition to 50% of marketing costs, after the album's release. In some cases, the artists were

allegedly unhappy about the way they were handled or that they were unable to exit their contract to accept much more lucrative offers. Carrie Underwood, Kelly Clarkson, Chris Daughtry and Clay Aiken have been by far the most successful "American Idol" winners.

The winner of "The Voice" is awarded \$100,000 and a record deal with Republic Records (a division of Universal Music Group) or the Nashville-based Big Machine Records. Of the 18 winners so far, only Cassadee Pope has achieved even a moderate amount of success.

\*\*\*

A horse of a totally different color is the Nobel Peace Prize. The winner receives a medal, the title of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and 10 million Swedish crowns, which equals about \$1.2 million in U.S. dollars. Obviously, winning a Nobel Prize is far better, but when you're a singer or talent looking for your big break, all of the above doesn't sound so un-Nobel. Merry Christmas!

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## Couch Theater

By Amy Anderson

December is the month of holidays -- there's Hanukkah, the first day of winter, Christmas, Kwanza and New Year's Eve, but my favorite December holiday is my birthday. In fact, here's a little birthday fun: I'm going to list some of my favorite fun movies, and let's see if you can guess my age.

"Love Actually" -- Yes, it's a Christmas film -- actually, it's my annual "watch while wrapping the gifts" movie -- but you can watch it anytime of year. Who doesn't love Hugh Grant as the dashing prime minister, and Andrew Lincoln's unrequited love for Juliet? Each time I watch it, I identify with a different character, sometime for worse, but mostly for better.

"Better Off Dead" -- John Cusack stars as sad high-schooler Laine Meyer, who's obsessed with his girlfriend Beth. Diane Franklin is Monique, the neighboring French foreign exchange student, who's attempting to escape the suffocating

attentions of her host family's son, Ricky.

"Goon" -- It's easy to write off this movie as trash -- the filthy language is on overload -- but I find the "misfit who finds his destiny" story to be sweet and disarming comedy. Sean William Scott plays Doug Glatt, a softie with a serious protective streak and a mean punch, who is tagged as an enforcer for a semi-pro hockey team after defending the honor of his brother.

"King Arthur: Legend of the Sword" -- Is it because Charlie Hunnam is in the lead role as Arthur, a tough orphan who is raised in a brothel before he pulls Excalibur from the stone and learns of his royal destiny? Or perhaps it's Jude Law as Arthur's vicious uncle Vortigern, who would sacrifice anything for more power. Maybe it's Guy Richie's stylistic direction. Critics hated it, but not all of them -- just check my Netflix watch history.

"Harry Potter and the ..." -- I love the entire Harry Potter series of films, top

to bottom. In case you're wondering, my favorite is "Prisoner of Azkaban," with the introduction of both Gary Oldman as Sirius Black, and David Thewlis as Professor Lupin, two of Harry's dad's besties.

"Steel Magnolias" -- This movie never ages nor tarnishes. A group of Southern women prepare for the wedding of Shelby and follow her through motherhood and beyond. No matter how many times I watch it, I will always root for Shelby, and cry at M'Lynn's cemetery soliloquy.

"Serenity" -- A final request to fans of the canceled TV series "Firefly," writer/director Joss Whedon takes us on a space adventure with a Western bent. Captain Mal Reynolds (Nathan Fillion) heads a rebellious crew who err on the shady side of business, but one of their own is relentlessly tracked by the Alliance. The only cure is a good-old fashioned showdown to out the truth and set them all free.

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## Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

\* Doc Martens come in all different colors and sizes now, but the first pair was created using old tires.

\* There actually aren't "57 varieties" of Heinz ketchup, and never were. Company founder H.J. Heinz thought his product should have a number, and he just happened to like 57.

\* March 3 is known as "What if Cats and Dogs Had Opposable Thumbs Day."

\* The number of permutations within a deck of cards is mind-bogglingly large: an 8 with 67 zeroes after it. That means there are more card combinations than stars in the Milky Way, which amount to as many as 400 billion!

\* Cataract surgery was possible as early as the 6th century B.C.

\* Barbie's physical appearance was inspired by a German doll named Bild Lilli, created in 1952 and based on a high-end call girl named Lilli who was featured in the comic strip "Bild-Zeitung." She was sold as an adult novelty in bars and tobacco shops -- definitely not as a children's toy. Barbie inventor Ruth Handler saw the doll while vacationing in Europe and brought it home.

\* Sunsets on Mars are blue.

\* The Gate Tower Building in Osaka, Japan, has a highway that passes through the building, between the fifth and seventh floors.

\* A Paris morgue needed help identifying bodies in the 1860s, so decided to open its doors to the public. They probably underestimated people's morbid curiosity, though, as soon 40,000 people a day were coming to look at corpses.

\* Mob boss Vincent Gigante would wander around New York in his bathrobe to convince the police he was insane, and thus avoid capture.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "Life is mostly froth and bubble. Two things stand like stone. Kindness in another's trouble, courage in your own." -- Adam Lindsay Gordon

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M	O	N	G	T	E	L	A	O	D	E
E	W	O	N	T	M	O	T	V	E	D
T	O	D	I	O	F	L	T	E	A	V
S	H	O	Z	V	R	K	M	V	E	H
V	I	L	O	O	V	R	E	I		
O	O	V	W	I	N	V	R	E	K	E
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T	I	N	I	H	E	T	O	H	M	
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N	O	E	C	B	A	V	H	V		
E	F	I	R	X	I	M	E	N	T	
O	N	H	T	E	R	S	A	G	B	

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

## Trivia Test

1. MEASUREMENTS: How many tablespoons are in 1 fluid ounce?
2. LITERATURE: Which famous gothic novel features the beginning sentence, "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again"?
3. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of New Zealand?
4. BUSINESS: When was the first iPhone released?
5. TELEVISION: What was the name of Norm Peterson's unseen wife in the sitcom "Cheers"?
6. PERSONALITIES: Which former pro football player earned the nickname "Broadway Joe"?
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a female donkey called?
8. MEDICAL: A deficiency of vitamin A causes what condition?

9. MUSIC: Which 1980s pop hit starts with the line, "Dearly beloved, we have gathered here today to get through this thing called life"?
  10. MOVIES: What was the name of Charles Foster Kane's estate in "Citizen Kane"?
- Answers
1. 2 tablespoons
  2. "Rebecca"
  3. Wellington
  4. 2007
  5. Vera
  6. Joe Namath
  7. A jenny
  8. Night blindness
  9. "Let's Go Crazy" by Prince
  10. Xanadu

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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Porter's burdens
- 5 Before
- 8 Dull sound of impact
- 12 Enticement
- 13 Blend
- 14 Abundant
- 15 Opera show-stopper
- 16 U.K. broadcaster
- 17 Black, in verse
- 18 Fight
- 20 Like a lot
- 22 Solid ground
- 26 Entire
- 29 Smack
- 30 Zilch
- 31 Bees' home
- 32 Parsons or Gaffigan
- 33 Slangy negative
- 34 — out a living
- 35 One of the Brady Bunch
- 36 Grown-up bug
- 37 Brownish orange
- 40 Warmonger
- 41 Barbershop tools
- 45 First victim
- 47 Luau bowlful
- 49 "American —"
- 50 Ring out

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

- 51 Barn bird
- 52 Alaskan metropolis
- 53 Vortex
- 54 — Aviv
- 55 Get larger

### DOWN

- 1 Spill the beans
- 2 Emanation
- 3 Determination
- 4 Birthplace of Starbucks
- 5 Fireplace bit
- 6 Cage component
- 7 Cry out
- 8 Italian fountain site
- 9 Ireland
- 10 Venusian vessel?
- 11 Lair
- 19 Appomattox surrenderer
- 21 Frequently
- 23 Serengeti beast
- 24 Chinese dynasty
- 25 Choir member
- 26 Sharpen
- 27 Raise
- 28 Above
- 32 Lotto win
- 33 Incredible
- 35 Mandible
- 36 Call — day
- 38 Make a comeback
- 39 Warble
- 42 Bloodhound's clue
- 43 Quarterback Tony
- 44 Dispatched
- 45 Mimic
- 46 Foundation
- 48 Didn't pay yet

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU



Brought to you each week by

FIRST STATE BANK

Happy 21st Birthday Michelle!



We love you! Mom, Dad, Billie & Susie

1 Column x 4"  
\$26 in Reporter Or Money Saver  
\$34 To Run In Both

2 Column x 2"  
\$26 in Reporter Or Money Saver  
\$34 To Run In Both

The Mendota Reporter

Stop In Today To Place Your Ad  
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FUN ADS!

Put A Little Fun In Someone's Life!

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

(No extra charge for photo)

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

Call 815-539-9396 for more information

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





# LOCAL AND AREA

## Kishwaukee Adult Education classes open for Spring 2021

MALTA - Kishwaukee College will offer a variety of free classes for English Language Learners and those seeking their High School Equivalency/GED (in English or Spanish) this spring.

ESL classes are available for beginning, intermediate and advanced English learners. Classes emphasize speaking, listening, reading and writing in English.

Citizenship classes start in April. This course covers an overview of the information relevant to the U.S. Citizenship test and citizenship process including American history and government.

High School Equivalency classes prepare students to take the GED. Subject areas

covered in class include reading, writing, social studies, science, math and the U.S. Constitution. These classes emphasize practical applications of the subjects and the total development of the learner. Enrollment for all these classes is happening now through Jan. 20.

For more information, including the registration process and class times and locations, visit [www.kish.edu/adulteducation](http://www.kish.edu/adulteducation). To reserve your spot for registration, contact Mari Vesey, administrative assistant for adult education, at [mvesey@kish.edu](mailto:mvesey@kish.edu) or (815) 825-9420. Registration sizes are limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

## Spirits

Continued from Page B1

**Gratitude calendar:** For each day of the month, record one thing you are thankful for. This is an easy activity that families can do together.

**Think positively:** Simply take time to think about what you are grateful for, which shifts our mindset to a positive place.

**Just say it:** Although you

might say the words “thank you” often, don’t underestimate the value of verbally expressing gratitude. Be specific about what you are thankful for to let the person know why they are valued and appreciated.

“As we are approaching the season of giving thanks, families can be intentional about incorporating gratitude into their daily lives and holiday traditions,” Walls said.

## Obituaries, continued from page A4

### Beverly Gentner

OTTAWA - Beverly Gentner, 88, passed away Dec. 9, 2020 at OSF St. Elizabeth Hospital, Ottawa, from COVID-19. Cremation rites have been accorded. Due to COVID-19, a memorial service will be held at a later date in 2021.

Bev, as she was known to her friends, was independent, thoughtful and strong. She was born Nov. 5, 1932 in Chicago to Gertrude and Arthur Elliot. She married Charles Gentner on Oct. 21, 1950.

Survivors include her beloved daughter, Sandra (Michael) Maas of Mendota; one grandson, Tyler (Dr. Kelsey Witte-Maas) Maas of Prairie City, Iowa; one granddaughter, Kelsey (spouse Alex Gulck) Maas of Salt Lake City, Utah; a sister-in-law, Karen Parker and niece, Karay Martinez of Cincinnati, Ohio; a half-sister, Barbara Sheahen and half-brother, Arthur (Suzzee) Elliott, both of Vernon Hills; several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her step-father, Joe Martinez; in-laws, Irwin and Selma Gentner; special companion, Charles Gentner; and beloved baby brother, Ray Martinez.

Bev graduated from Kelvyn Park High School in Chicago and had a long working career, spending the last 12 years at Boise Cascade before retiring in 1997. She was an avid reader and a regular at her local library. Most recently, she enjoyed biographies of historic Americans. She was an ardent golfer and could be found on the green up until life slowed her down. After retirement, Bev continued to serve her community and volunteered for several years at a local school, reading to and assisting lower grade elementary students. She continued volunteering at a local hospital until a year ago. Late in life, Bev was connected to lost family members, for which she was most grateful.

Up until a recent fall placed her in a local nursing home for rehab only, Beverly was sharp minded and fiercely independent. She is one of the over 300,000 individuals that have been taken too soon because of COVID-19. She will be painfully missed by her family and friends.

Please, take care of yourselves and your community. Wear a mask, wash your hands, social distance, and limit interactions. Life is too precious. Memorials and donations may be made to the Salvation Army or to the family for other favorite charities of Bev’s.

### Norma L. Buster

MENDOTA - Norma L. Buster, 95, a resident of Heritage Health, Mendota passed away Dec. 10, 2020.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 22 at Restland Cemetery, Mendota with Rev. Susan Presley officiating. Merritt Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Norma was born April 14, 1925 in Clarion Township to Harry and Florence (Herr) Becket. She married Carl Buster on Jan. 18, 1947 in Mendota. He preceded her in death in 1985.

Survivors include two sons, Leonard Buster of Peru and David Buster of Indiana; one daughter, Gloria (Lonnie) Kent of Plymouth; one daughter-in-law, Rose Buster of Mendota; nine grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and one brother, Gene (Geneva) Becket of Batavia.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband and one son, Kenneth Buster in 2018.

Norma was a homemaker. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Mendota. She loved spending time with her family especially her grandchildren. She enjoyed nursing home activities including bingo and reading.

Memorials may be directed to the Heritage Health Activity Department.

### Frances G. Hrovat

MENDOTA - Frances Grace “Pat” (Hoffman) Hrovat, 95, departed this life to be with her beloved savior Jesus Christ on Dec. 11, 2020.

A celebration of life service will be scheduled at St. Johns at a future date.

Pat was born Aug. 25, 1925 in Chicago to Alma and John Hoffman. She married Frank J. Hrovat on March 9, 1946. He preceded her in death on June 14, 2009.

Survivors include one son, David (Kathy) Hrovat of Ludlow, Ky.; and three grandchildren, Ann Hrovat of Dallas, Jacqueline Beville (Matt) of Burbank, Calif. and Paul Hrovat of Chicago.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; three brothers, Bill, Raymond and Howard; and four sisters, Gladys, Rose, Betty and Gretchen.

Mendota was home to Pat for 54 years, primarily at 1103 3rd St. She was employed by Wayside Press for 38 years and served the firm in a number of capacities. She was a life-long member of St. John’s Lutheran Church and was an auxiliary member of Mendota VFW Post 4079, serving a single term as president.

Memorials may be directed to St. John’s Lutheran Church and the Mendota Lutheran Home.

Online condolences may be expressed on Facebook or at [SerenityFuneralCare.com](http://SerenityFuneralCare.com).



## SPECIAL CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY DEADLINES

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.**

## 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](http://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.

**Send an e-mail**

**Bonnie Morris**  
bmorris@  
[mendotareporter.com](http://mendotareporter.com)

## shoppe™

## Keep it local.

Place your next advertisement in The Reporter and get results

## 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.

**OUR CHARITIES NEED OUR SUPPORT NOW MORE THAN EVER!**



For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of **365 DAILY WINNERS TOTAL CASH PRIZES \$18,250** PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS

### Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

• **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **PURCHASE CALENDARS**. Once the calendar is purchased we will mail it out to you! Shipping and processing fees will be added to cost.

• **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:  
In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest  
In Oregon at: Merlin's  
In Dixon at: Shining Star  
In Amboy at: Amboy News Office

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stonecroftvillage.com

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**McConville Realty & Auctioneering**  
612 Main St.  
815-539-5673

## AUTO BODY REPAIR

**Specialty Body & Paint**  
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815-539-7801  
Se Habla Español

## AUTOMOBILE DEALERS

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Rt. 251 S.  
815-539-9314  
www.mendotaford.com

**Schimmer, Inc. Buick • Chevy**  
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815-539-9343  
www.schimmergm.com

**Vaessen Bros. Chevrolet**  
505 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Sublette  
815-915-4170  
www.vaessenbrothers.com

## BEAUTY SALON

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

## BOOKKEEPING/TAX SERVICE

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

## CARPENTRY

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

## CARPET & FLOORING

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

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

## CONCRETE CONTRACTOR

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

## CONTRACTORS - GENERAL

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

## DENTISTS

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

## ELECTRICAL

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

## ELECTRICAL/CONTRACTING

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

## FAST TITLE & LICENSE

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

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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

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

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

**First State Bank**  
706 Washington St. • Main  
1403 13th Ave. • Plaza  
815-538-2265  
firststatebank.biz  
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Paw Paw • 815-627-2651  
Sublette • 815-849-5242  
Woodhaven • 815-849-5918  
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## FINANCIAL PLANNING

**Chris Eller, The Retirement Specialists**  
801 Jefferson St.  
815-539-3437  
chris@chris-eller.com

## FIREPLACES

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815-223-1742

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815-539-9306

## FUNERAL HOMES

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815-539-8500

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815-539-6263

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815-539-9341

## GYM

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815-539-9343

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815-539-3828  
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815-538-6516  
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## HOSPITALS

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## INSURANCE

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815-539-3811

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612 Main St.  
815-539-5673

**Town & Country Realty**  
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815-849-5476

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815-539-7700  
mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com

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

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815-539-3844  
www.ancarevet.com

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

## WINDOWS & DECKING

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



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# LOCAL AND AREA

## The key to living with confidence

God has a great plan for each person's life, and He wants us to enjoy every day of our lives. But we can't do it if we live in fear and lack confidence. Confidence is the belief that you're able to do what you need to do or what you want to do. God gives us confidence, but we need to know how to access it by faith.

God-given confidence is actually the grace of God. We usually hear grace defined as God's undeserved favor or God doing something for you that you don't deserve. But it's really more than that.

It was life-changing for me to learn that grace is also God's power, freely given to me, to enable me to do with ease what I could never do on my own with any amount of struggle or effort.

Think about this for a minute. Everyone who accepts Christ as their Savior is taught that we're saved by grace through faith. Ephesians 2:8 (NIV) says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."

But the same way we are saved is the way we

are supposed to live. In other words, once we are born again, God wants us to do everything in life by grace through faith.

This has been one of the greatest revelations of my life. I remember how exciting it was to realize that God is not just there to help us when we have an emergency. God wants to be involved in every single thing we do on a daily basis.

There's nothing you're involved in that God doesn't care about, and He wants you to pray and ask Him to help you with every detail of your life. He doesn't want you to live striving in your own effort to do anything. God wants to be your close, personal, intimate friend.

I was a Christian for years before I learned how to access God's grace—His power—to live my everyday life. First, I had to get an understanding that once I was saved, God didn't expect me to live right by my own strength.

Just as I couldn't "earn" salvation through my own works or effort, I also couldn't really change my heart or behavior in my own strength. Jesus says in John 15:4 (NIV), "No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

Every day we need to come to God and tell Him, "God, I can do



nothing without You. Nothing in my life is going to work without You. Apart from You, there is nothing good in me. My confidence is in You. I need You all the time. I believe You and trust You, Lord."

When we humble ourselves before God and ask Him for help, we can access His grace through faith.

To help you do that, I want to share three things that commonly short-circuit our faith, cutting off our access to God's power: complaining, self-pity and pride.

• Complaining is a negative attitude that keeps us from being thankful for all God has done, what He's doing, and what He will do. It is a sin we need to repent of, and then be determined to thank God in all things, at all times. His grace and blessings always outweigh the things we think are wrong in our life.

• Self-pity is simply a "poor me" attitude. It is a form of idolatry because it causes you to focus on yourself and think, "What about me?" We

can't be pitiful and powerful at the same time, so let's decide to give up all self-pity.

• Pride takes credit for what God has done and steals His glory. It makes us independent of God, and we can't bear good fruit apart from Christ.

Before I learned how to live my life by God's grace, I was a mess. I was a nagging wife, manipulative and controlling. And I wasn't satisfied living like that. Then God helped me by opening my eyes to see that I couldn't really change until I started taking His Word seriously, trusting Him to change me.

When I made a firm decision to pray and study the Word in areas where I was weak, then God's grace gave me the power I needed to overcome the things that were wrong. And I keep going forward in my journey with God the same way today.

God has all the power you need to do anything you need to do. He loves you and wants to give you His power to live your everyday life with joy. Trust His wisdom

and goodness, and you'll live with God-given confidence!

\*\*\*

For more on this topic, order Joyce's teaching resource *Knowing Who You Are in Christ*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored 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](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

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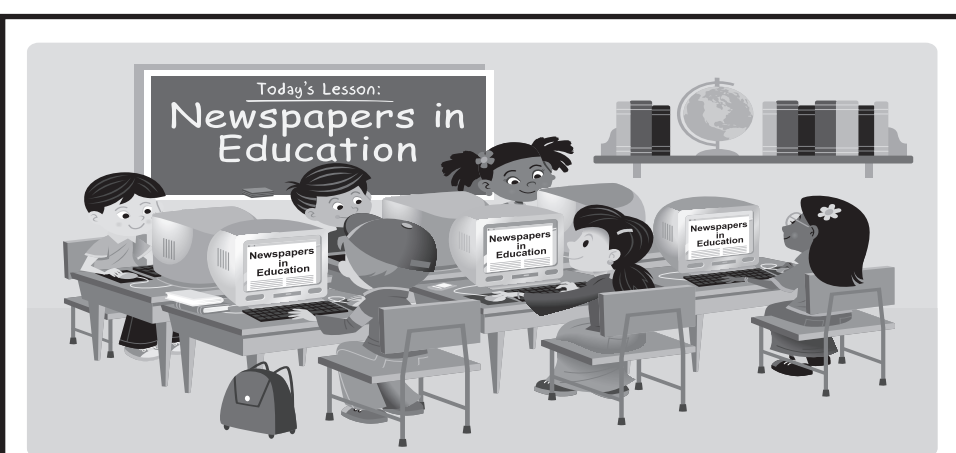
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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

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Confession

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100 E. Sixth St.  
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Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor  
Cell: (815) 718-2191

Sunday Praise Worship  
Sunday school for all ages  
Traditional Worship

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

#### ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.  
.....

Pastor Hogun Kim  
(219) 765-1379

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

Church office  
(815) 538-2186

Email: [zionumcmendota@gmail.com](mailto:zionumcmendota@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.zionchurchumc.com](http://www.zionchurchumc.com)

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

#### COME AS YOU ARE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

James Duncan, Pastor  
Website: [www.cayabc.com](http://www.cayabc.com)  
Email prayer requests: [prayer@cayabc.com](mailto:prayer@cayabc.com)

**SUNDAY:** Worship  
Sunday School

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

Posted by Rev. Susan Presley

#### UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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

Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor  
E-mail: [mendotaupc@yahoo.com](mailto:mendotaupc@yahoo.com)  
[www.mendotaupc.org](http://www.mendotaupc.org)

**SUNDAY:** Christian Education  
Sunday Worship

**WEDNESDAY**

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Pastor Steve Breedlove

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Worship

**WEDNESDAY**  
Prayer Service

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Rt. 251 at Lake Mendota  
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Phone (815) 539-7107 (church)  
(815) 871-5702 (pastor)  
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Larry Sheaves, Pastor

[www.newcovenantmendota.org](http://www.newcovenantmendota.org)  
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Sunday School  
Worship

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(815) 538-6876  
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Brian Kelly, Pastor  
[www.mendotabiblechurch.org](http://www.mendotabiblechurch.org)

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
Sunday School  
Worship  
Evening Service

#### ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

607 Tenth Ave.  
(815) 539-5626

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor


E-mail: [office@stjohnsmendota.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmendota.org)

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

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

Find us on Facebook

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




THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Therefore the Lord Himself  
will give you a sign:  
Behold, the virgin shall conceive  
and bear a Son, and  
shall call His name Immanuel.

- ISAIAH 7:14

"Heilige Nacht" (15th-century woodcut)

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Rev. Susan Presley

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Accessible  
**DIGITAL SCHEDULE:**

**Sunday Worship:**

Please see our Facebook page  
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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  
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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.*

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

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Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer

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

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**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

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

Sunday Worship

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Pastor David Jungnickel

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

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Pastor Brian Hamiel

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

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**SUNDAY SERVICE**

#### BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. Who visited Jesus on the night of His birth and found Mary, Joseph and the babe lying in a manger?

Innkeeper, Shepherds, Herod, Magi

3. By biblical accounts, what animals were present and around the manger at Jesus' birth?

Lions and bears, Sheep and goats, Donkeys and chickens, No mention of animals

4. When the wise men (Magi) arrived in the Holy Land, where did they go first?

Jerusalem, Beersheba, Haifa, Tel Aviv

5. Which of these wasn't biblically stated as a gift from the Magi?

Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense

6. Which Old Testament prophet said the most about the birth of Christ?

Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah



ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Shepherds; 3) No mention of animals; 4) Jerusalem (Mat 2:1-2); 5) Silver; 6) Isaiah

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

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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





# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

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



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

## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**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 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 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)

### NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 11, 2020 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Toil and Thyme located at 127 West Van Buren Street, Ottawa, IL 61350.

Dated: December 11, 2020.  
Aubrey Sipula  
Applicant  
No. 1203  
(Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2020)

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

ESTATE OF )  
SHIRLEY S. HEISS, )  
Deceased. )  
2020 P 000231

### CLAIMS NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Shirley S. Heiss, of LaSalle County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on the 10th day of December, 2020 to Patricia A. Mucha and Nanci H. Stark 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 June 16, 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/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. 1204  
(Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2020)

## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

## 105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

## 113 FINANCIAL

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

## 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

## 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

## 203 HELP WANTED

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

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:dickharms@hotmail.com)

## 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

## 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

## 203 HELP WANTED

## 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

**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.



**OSF Healthcare System seeks Clinical Lab Scientists for multiple openings:**

OSF Saint Luke Medical Center in Kewanee, IL (2 for 3rd Shift, occ. 2nd), Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa, IL (2 for 3rd Shift, occ. 2nd), and Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota, IL (2 for 3rd Shift, occ. 2nd).

Analysis of chemistry, hematology, bacteriology, immunohematology, immunology, parasitology, limited mycobacteriology, mycology & urinalysis; all analytic phases of examination of specimen materials for use in diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of disease or assessment of medical condition; Quality control of instruments, reagents and procedures. Must pass drug and background check. BS in Medical Technology or Clinical Laboratory; ASCP or AMT Cert. required. One year experience in this role is required to enable the successful applicant to work independently in 2nd or 3rd shift roles.

Apply on-line at [careers.osfhealthcare.org](http://careers.osfhealthcare.org).

## MISCELLANEOUS

NEW DISCOVERY ELIMINATES COMMON SEXUAL PROBLEMS! All Natural Male Enhancement Product Increases Staying Power, Performance, & Pleasure. Risk FREE 60 Day Guarantee + FREE SHIPPING. 15% Discount with Coupon perform03. Visit: [TryProZytle.com](http://TryProZytle.com)

## 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](http://RefrigerantFinders.com)

## 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

## INFORMATION

**Office Hours:**  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday-Friday)

**Phone:**  
815-539-9396

**Fax:**  
815-539-7862

**Email:**  
[jgriffith@mendotareporter.com](mailto: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.

## 601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

### 2019 Buick Encore FWD Preferred



Sunroof, GM Certified, 1-Owner, Remote Start, Power Seat & More!  
White

## \$20,900



**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
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- 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

2020 Chevy Malibu LT 8K Miles, Red .....\$23,500

2019 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4, 26K Miles Silver.....\$44,900

2019 Buick Encore Preferred FWD, 10k mi, White.\$20,900

2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, Z71, 4x4, Black .\$40,900

2018 Chevy Traverse AWD Premier, 54K Miles Silver.....\$30,500

2018 Chevy Equinox LT AWD 20K Miles, Pepperdust .\$22,900

2018 Chevy Equinox LT AWD, Remote Start, Power Seat, Black .....\$19,500

2018 Chevy Impala LT 47K Miles, Blue .....\$19,000

2018 Chevy Malibu LT Leather, Nav., 50K Miles Silver.....\$18,900

2018 Chev Equinox FWD LT Sunroof, 62K Miles Black .....\$17,500

2018 Chevy Malibu LT 45K Miles, Tan .....\$16,500

2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, LTZ, Pearl White .\$33,900

2017 Buick Envision Preferred AWD, 21K Miles, Black .....\$24,900

2017 Chevy Cruze LT Remote Start, Power Seat, White.....\$15,500

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

2017 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab 4x4, Z71, LT, Diesel Black .....\$39,500

2017 GMC Acadia Denali AWD, Maroon .....\$28,900

2016 Chevy Malibu LT Leather, 98K mi., Gray.....\$13,900

2014 Chevy 1500 Double Cab Z71, 4x4, Black.....\$23,500

2013 Chevy K-1500 Crew LT 4x4, Z71, 54K Blue Granite .....\$23,900

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

**HIGHWAY 52 SUBLETTE, IL**  
[www.vaessenbrothers.com](http://www.vaessenbrothers.com)

(815) 849-5232  
1-800-227-5203

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

**FIND NEW ROADS™**

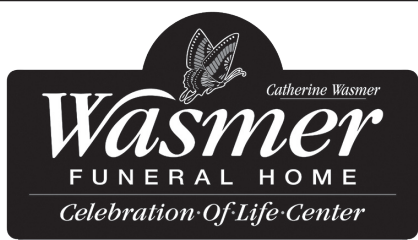




# WHO CAN DO IT?

## BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

### FUNERAL HOME



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

**1stAuto**  
& Casualty Insurance Company

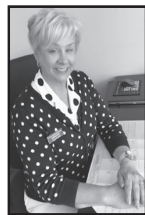
**Heiting Insurance Agency**

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



### AUTO SALES

**JP**



**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

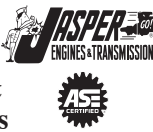
1901 Tom Merwin Drive, Mendota, IL  
815-539-7700 • mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com

### AUTO REPAIR



307 Plaza Dr. • 815-538-2412

COMPLETE  
AUTO REPAIR  
SPECIALIZING IN:  
Auto Transmission &  
Computer Diagnostics



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Serving the Mendota Community Since 1968

Mendota, IL  
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*I Believe in*



**Garbage Men**

Your Garbage Is Our Bread and Butter

### MOVERS



### LANDSCAPING

**EKANA**  
NURSERY & LANDSCAPING, INC.

Garden Center & Custom  
Landscape Design

417 US-34 • Mendota (815)538-4800

Mon-Sat 9-4  
Closed Sunday

### RESALE SHOP

**Nightengales Thrift Shop**

708 Jefferson St., Mendota  
Open 12-3:30

Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat  
(Must Wear Mask)

1/2 Price Day 1st &  
3rd Saturdays



### INSURANCE COMPANY



SINCE 1875

Mendota's ONLY insurance company!  
www.MendotaMutual.com

### PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING

**Triple Service**



- Plumbing
- Heating
- Cooling
- Electric

Mendota: 815-539-3828  
www.tripleserviceinc.com  
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Therapy & Senior Care

WELCOME AUTUMN!

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with our RESTORE Therapy  
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**FIVE-STAR facility!**

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### GYM & MORE

**the Y**  
YMCA

- New Y App & Rewards Program
- Youth & Adult Activities
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- Use of Membership at all Y's
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- No Contracts

Mendota  
815.538.2900  
1811 S. 13th Ave. Rt. 251  
Mendota, IL 61342  
www.ivymva.com

### GROCERY STORE



**We're your full service grocery store!**

1102 Meriden St., Mendota • 815-539-9341  
Open 6am-10pm • 7 days a week

### FINANCIAL INSTITUTION



Chris Holdenrid  
VP, Mortgage Lending  
NMLS#461073



Cory Biers  
Sr. Vice President  
NMLS#477892

**FIRST STATE BANK**

706 Washington St. • Mendota • 815.539.3834  
firststatebank.biz

### LEAKPROOF ROOFING

GUARANTEED LEAKPROOF ROOFING



Industrial • Commercial • Residential  
For low pitched flat roofs  
Featuring Duro-Last®

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License #104005528  
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### CARPENTRY



- New Homes
- Remodeling
- Kitchens
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**FIRST STATE INSURANCE**  
Mendota • Earlville • Paw Paw  
815-539-5651

### POST FRAME BUILDINGS



**N L Morton Buildings, Ltd.**  
Mendota, IL 61342  
815-539-9325  
Jim Stremlau  
Commercial- Ag- Residential  
New Construction & Repair

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**STIHL**  
Husqvarna

205 W. Main St. | Sublette, IL  
**815-849-5225**  
mainstreetrepair16@yahoo.com

**SALES & SERVICE**

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- Husqvarna Mowers
- Dixon ZTR Parts

### FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

For all your home  
loan needs, see

**Jesse Arellano**

**Eureka Savings**  
BANK

1300 13th Ave. • Mendota, IL 61342  
Telephone: (815) 539-5656  
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### HARDWARE STORE

**STEPHENITCH**  
**Do it Best** HARDWARE

- Screen & window repair
- Pipe cut & thread
- Glass & plexiglass cut
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- Great selection
- Knowledgeable advice

1200 13th Ave., Mendota • 815-539-9394  
Family owned & operated since 1893.

### ELECTRIC

**Mathesius Electric LLC**  
Greg Mathesius

- Agricultural
- Commercial
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Authorized Generac  
Dealer and Services

**GENERAC**

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Earlville, Illinois

### REAL ESTATE

**ERBES**  
Realty

1922 Tower Rd, Sublette, IL  
815-535-6295  
Lori Erbes, GRI  
Designated Managing Broker

NEWSPAPER



**Stay  
Connected  
With Your  
Hometown News**



# REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE FEATURE HOME



1107 5th St., Mendota, IL  
#10528563 \$120,000

Charming 3-4 bedroom home with first floor laundry and master bedroom and bath. Eat in kitchen and dining area. 2 car detached garage. Screened porch and lovely front porch. Roof repairs have been completed. Call for all the amenities.

**McConville Realty & Auctioneering**  
612 S. Main St., Mendota, IL • 815-539-5673



"Come Settle With Us"



**815-539-3811**

Helping people find homes since 1983.

1316 Lakewood Plaza • Rte. 251 N. • Mendota

Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker

Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101



**304 3rd Avenue**  
**MENDOTA \$59,000**  
3 BDR, 1 large garage,  
Motivated Seller



**1206 Burlington St.**  
**MENDOTA \$126,000**  
4 BDR, 2 BA, extra  
deep lot, front porch



**1001 3rd Street**  
**MENDOTA \$128,500**  
3 BDR, 2BA, 2 car  
garage!!!!



**240 W. Pleasant**  
**AMBOY \$29,900**  
Fixer Upper



**1551 W. Main Street**  
**MENDOTA \$74,900**  
2 BDR duplex with  
main floor laundry and  
garage



**1003 Chicago Street**  
**MENDOTA \$109,900**  
3 BDR, 1.5 BA, open  
concept living with  
attached garage



**4121 E. 2nd Rd**  
**MENDOTA \$159,000**  
4 BDR's, 2 BA's,  
beautiful country lot!



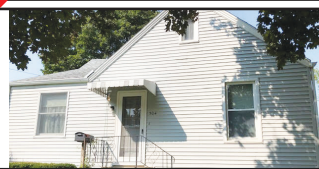
**701 Illinois Avenue**  
**MENDOTA \$165,000**  
Turn key floral/  
giftshop!!!!

REDUCED

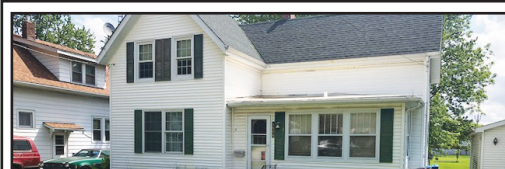


**LOOKING FOR A READY MADE INVESTMENT PROPERTY? LOOK NO FURTHER.** Two parcels included. Hallway has been remodeled, nice original hardwood floors throughout a lot of the main floors. They are the original gym floors from when the building was part of the school. The cafeteria was in what is now the basement area, used for storage if the tenants need it. There is one empty apt at this time, the other four have year to year leases.

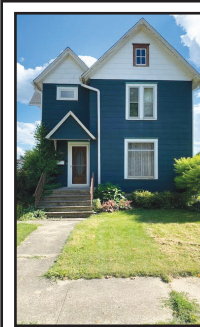
REDUCED



**GREAT LOCATION! GREAT STARTER HOME! PERFECT FOR A FAMILY! THIS ONE HAS A EXTRA LARGE KITCHEN WITH NEWER OAK CABINETS. OPTION FOR FIRST FLOOR LAUNDRY. FEATURING SOME HARDWOOD FLOORS, VINYL SIDING, A GARDEN SHED AND NEW VINYL REPLACEMENT WINDOWS. THIS PROPERTY SITS ON .25 ACRE LOT. HOME HAS NEWER ROOF, NEW FURNACE AND CENTRAL AIR SYSTEM.**



**A WONDERFUL FAMILY SIZED HOME ON LARGE LOT.** Features include 3 Bedrooms, 2 Full Baths, Den and enclosed front porch for extra living space. FIRST FLOOR LAUNDRY area, all appliances stay. 2 CAR DETACHED GARAGE, large shed, landscaping and deck. NEW carpet installed 10-16-20



**BEAUTIFUL LARGE 2 STORY HOME,** features include original staircase, hardwood flooring, large master suite, family room, breakfast room, dining room, sun porch, deck, and 2 car garage! Master bathroom updated and has a laundry area! Property being sold AS IS



Rebecca McPheeters,  
Designated Managing Broker.



**Town & Country  
Realty**

**607 Sixth St.**  
**Mendota**  
**(815) 539-6635**  
**www.tcrealtysales.net**

**Evening Phone Numbers**  
Becky McPheeters, Designated  
Managing Broker 708-220-3338  
Rita Lilja 815-539-9255  
Jami Bauer 815-993-7751  
Lori Munson 815-228-4852

## McConville

REALTY & AUCTIONEERING



Joe McConville  
Designated Managing Broker



612 S. Main St., Mendota, IL  
**815-539-5673**

E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com  
mcconvillerealtymendota@gmail.com  
Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com

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

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker 815-910-5673

Marty McConville, Broker 815-200-2233

Richard McConville, Broker 815-539-5673

Sharon Kimrey, Broker 815-343-3600

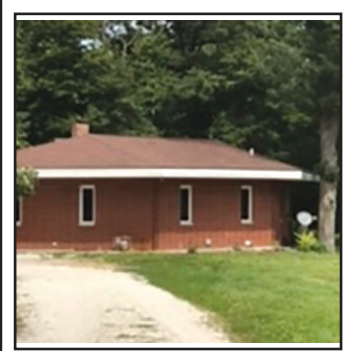
Melody Nanzer, Broker 815-228-2842

Ryan Coss, Broker 815-830-8636

**We have  
building lots in  
Mendota and  
Earlville For Sale.**  
**Call for more  
information.**  
**We can be  
reached on our  
cell phones  
listed or our  
Mendota office  
815 539-5673**



MLS# 10908570 3644 E. 5th Rd, \$187,000 Follow Vermillion St in Troy Grove over rail road track and house is on the left side on the curve.. Unique property siton on 3 acres. 3 car garage, swimming pool above ground, jacuzzi, fenced yard for small dogs. 3 bedrooms 2 bath. Lower level family room with fireplace. Call for all the amenities.



MLS# 10813275 \$199,000 4444 E. 1553rd Rd. Earlville Unique! Octagon brick and cedar home on 5.33 wooded acres with creek. Very serene property. 3 bedroom 1 bath (2nd bath in basement) Partially finished basement. Fireplace and woodburner. This home is being sold as is. Call McConville Realty for a showing.



**1506 Lincoln Ave.,**  
**Mendota \$125,500**  
• 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2  
Story Home w/ 2 Car Garage  
• Stunning Wood Flooring,  
High Ceiling, Large Windows  
Allowing Natural Light In  
• Tons of Updates!



**206 S. Popular St.,**  
**Sublette \$133,900**  
• 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 2  
Story Home in Sublette  
• Natural Woodwork  
Throughout  
• 3 Car Garage With Heat  
and Concrete Flooring



**606 W Main St.,**  
**Sublette \$129,900**  
• 2 Bed 1 Bath  
• New flooring, windows,  
doors, trim  
• Kitchen cabinets  
professionally refinished,  
new counter tops



**18 N. Blackstone Ave.,**  
**Amboy \$114,900**  
• Cozy 3 Bed, 1 Ba home  
w/ fireplace  
• Main Floor Laundry, 2  
Main floor bedrooms  
• Paved path to 3 car  
detached garage

901 Clark St., Oglesby.....\$289,900  
164 Penkins Road, Sublette **PENDING**.....\$183,000  
568 Slant Road, West Brooklyn.....\$180,000  
1460 Sleepy Hollow Road, Amboy **PENDING**.....\$109,500  
209 S Jefferson Ave., Amboy.....\$95,900  
319 W. Pieronnet St., Amboy.....\$89,900  
112 S. Mason Ave., Amboy **CONTINGENT**.....\$49,900

#### LOTS FOR SALE

236 W Bacon St., Amboy – 2 Beautiful Acres.....\$39,900  
25 W Milton St., Amboy – 5 Lots.....\$28,500  
919 Missouri Dr., Dixon – A Builder's Dream – Double Lot.....\$25,000  
1953 Straw Lane, Dixon- 1.15 Acres.....\$19,500

**Come See Us About Woodhaven Lakes Properties!!**

## ERBES

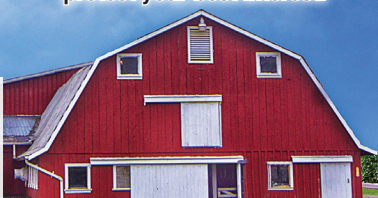
Realty LLC

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protect your best interest.

Lori Erbes, GRI  
Designated Managing Broker  
Abigail Vaessen,  
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