

Off to a good start

■ MHS encounters only minor expected issues with school reopening

By **BONNIE MORRIS**
Editor

MENDOTA—After many months of planning and preparation for a safe return to classes at Mendota High School, teachers and administrators agreed that the first week of school went well.

One week in, Superintendent Jeff Prusator had many positives to report. “The good news is everyone was very pleased with the first week of school. There were some bumps but we expected that,” Prusator said. “Nobody ever tried to open schools during a pandemic before so this is all new.”

Many changes were in store for students as they began the new school year on Sept. 8. One of the first was temperature checks, which Prusator said went extremely well. Using forehead scan thermometers that are calibrated to account for weather conditions, students quickly adapted to the process. “It took a little time to get used to it but it’s going very well,” he said.

Principal Denise Aughenbaugh said one of the main concerns they had while planning to reopen was lunch. To keep lunchtime safe, students are served a sack lunch in four separate areas during three different lunch times so distance can be maintained. “The kids have been wonderful about the changes,” Aughenbaugh noted. “They don’t have food choices like they used to but they understand why we have to do that.”

Despite the term “sack lunch,” Prusator praised the cafeteria staff for finding ways to be creative in providing variety for the students.



Mendota High School students wear their masks in the classroom as they attend the first day of school on Sept. 8. Teachers have been taking their students outside for a five-minute mask-free break during what are 85-minute class periods. (Reporter photo)

“Our six lunch ladies have been phenomenal,” he said. “They are taking the time to change things up – one day they made turkey wraps, another day the kids got hot dogs wrapped in foil to stay hot, so they’re not just serving peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.”

By using technology, students are sent a reminder each day to order lunch for the following day. The students have assigned seats for eating so the staff knows when and where each student is located and lunch is delivered to them. The students take their masks off to eat but when they are done eating, they have to put their masks back on. “They can talk to the people around them but they have to stay in their seats,” Prusator noted. “The kids have been great about it and have done what we’ve asked of them.”

From all reports, the mask requirement has posed no problems at MHS. Classes are 85 minutes long but include a five-minute break to go outside, relax and take off the masks. “The kids have been great as far as wearing their masks,” Prusator said. “We have all gotten used to them and we have had no issues with masks – the kids keep them on.”

One positive outcome from all the changes at school is in the use of technology. “This has forced us to improve our technology skills – if there’s any good to come of this, it would be that,” Aughenbaugh noted. “These are forced changes, but we will be able to continue using some of them.”

That includes the use of Zoom for remote classes. Prusator said money the school received from the Cares Act was used to

purchase wireless digital cameras so classes could be streamed when students are quarantined at home. “That has gone very well,” he said. “We so appreciate the parents and community for understanding that there are bound to be bumps in the road, but we are doing our best to stay safe and keep students in the classroom.”

Prusator emphasized that due to all the safety measures they have taken – social distancing, cleaning, and most importantly wearing masks at all times – and the cooperation they have received, he believes that MHS is a safe environment. “But there are challenges and none of them were unexpected. We don’t have our head in the sand,” he said. “We expected that eventually a student or

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Illinois won’t take part in Trump’s payroll tax deferral program

By **PETER HANCOCK**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Illinois plans to continue withholding federal payroll taxes on behalf of its 62,000 employees despite a program President Trump launched in August that allows workers to defer paying those taxes through the end of the year.

“I’m not supporting a deferral that would double workers taxes after January and put Social Security further at risk. I mean, that’s essentially what this would do,” Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza said.

Trump announced the program in a memorandum Aug. 8. It applies to the 6.2 percent tax that employers withhold for their employee’s Social Security benefits. It often appears on pay

“I’m not supporting a deferral that would double workers taxes after January and put Social Security further at risk. I mean, that’s essentially what this would do.”

—Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza

stubs as FICA – the Federal Insurance Contributions Act. The program is available for employees who earn less than \$104,000 per year.

The intent is to temporarily boost workers’ income during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the taxes that would be deferred would have to be repaid after Jan. 1. Then, the employee’s withholding would double to 12.4 percent until the amount of taxes that were deferred is repaid.

So far, the only major employers taking part in

the program is the federal government, Mendoza said. Most states and many large private-sector employers have publicly stated that they will not take part.

Mendoza said Gov. JB Pritzker has already announced that the agencies under his purview will not take part in the program, nor will any of the other state constitutional officers – attorney general, secretary of state, state treasurer and attorney general.

“Just on its face, as a policy, to me it seemed really

bad policy to essentially tell people that they can have a little bit of money on the front end and then pay twice as much on the back end and be prepared to do so,” Mendoza said.

“I reached out to the governor early on to let them know my position, that we would not be doing it for any of our employees, and of course recommended that no one do it because I think it’s terrible policy,” she said.

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COVID-19 TESTING CENTER

Virus testing available for 2 days in Mendota

MENDOTA – The LaSalle County Health Department is announcing a temporary drive-through COVID-19 testing site sponsored by the State of Illinois, which will be held in Mendota. The site will be set up on Saturday, Sept. 26 and Sunday Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Mendota Civic Center, 1901 Tom Merwin Drive.

Some important details about the testing site:

- Simple nasal swabs will be used.
- You will be called with results within 4-7 days.
- No cost for testing.
- Bring your insurance card, but you can still be tested if you do not have insurance.
- Anyone can get tested. You do not have to have symptoms or be sick.

For more information, call the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366.



Shelby Weide has taken over as the new President/CEO of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce. She was promoted from administrative assistant. (Reporter photo)

New President/CEO named at Chamber

MENDOTA – Shelby Weide was named the new President and Chief Executive Officer of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 9. She takes over the position from Kate Fox, who was the President/CEO since Dec. 1, 2018. Fox resigned to take a job out of state.

Weide joined the Chamber of Commerce in July 2018 as the administrative assistant. She replaced long-time administrative assistant Roberta Friedlein.

“I am really excited with my new position at the Mendota Chamber and I am looking forward to going out into our business community and getting to know our members,” Weide said.

The year 2020 has disrupted businesses and lives throughout the world, and for the first time since its inception, what would have been the 73rd annual Sweet

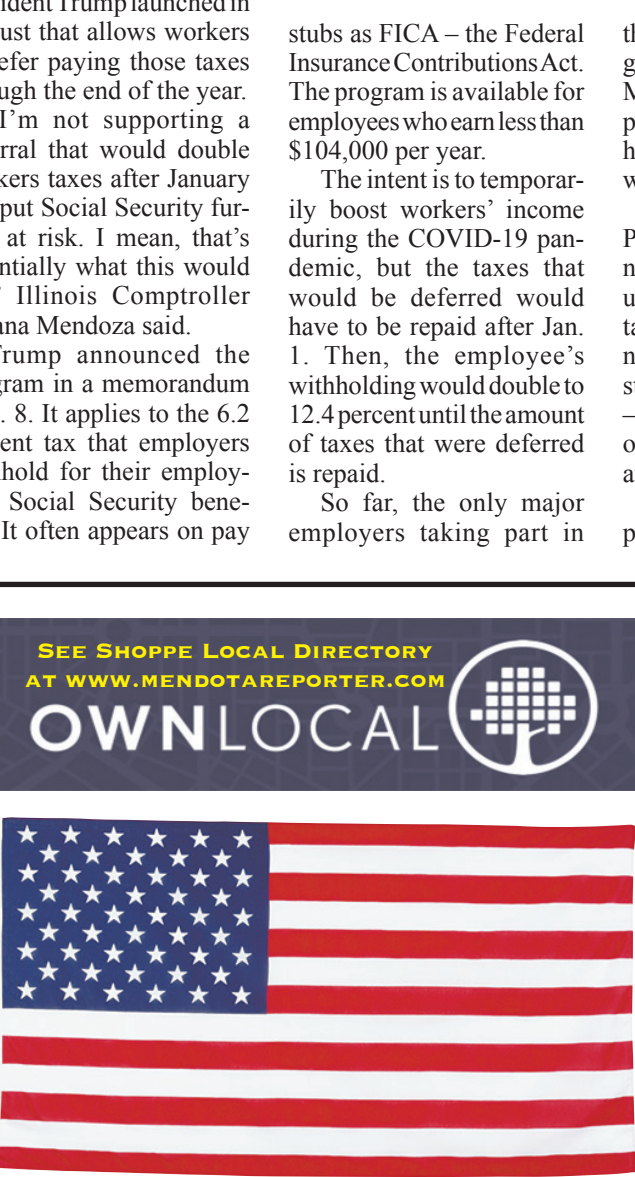
Corn Festival this year was cancelled because of the coronavirus pandemic. The Chamber was also forced to cancel some of its other annual events, but Weide is crossing her fingers that things will be different next year.


“2020 has been a crazy year for the Chamber with the cancellation of so many events,” she said. “Looking at 2021 just around the corner, the Chamber is hopeful that we will be able to do the things we have all missed this year, including the Annual Sweet Corn Festival, fly-in breakfast and two golf outings.”

Weide is a lifelong resident of Mendota and graduated from Mendota High School. Before her employment at the Mendota Chamber, she was a teacher’s aide at Blackstone School and manager of the Mendota Moose Lodge.

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OWNLOCAL





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Welcome to Fall!





LOCAL AND AREA

Sublette Village Board approves new salary rates, discusses Trick or Treat

By **TONJA GREENFIELD**

Staff writer

SUBLETTE — The Village of Sublette Board of Trustees approved salary increases for those elected and appointed after the April 2021 election.

The board met in regular session on Monday, Sept. 14 at the Ellice Dinges Center. All board members were present.

The ordinance had to be passed 180 days before the next election on April 2021. The new salary rates are as follows:

- Village President shall receive \$2,400 per year, payable at the end of the fiscal year.
- Village Trustees shall receive \$1,500 per year, payable at the end of the fiscal year.
- Village Clerk shall receive \$5,400 per year, payable at a rate of \$450 per month.
- For Committee meetings, committee members, trustees, village president, village clerk and village treasurer shall receive \$25 per committee meeting, special meeting, and fiscal year-end meeting, but in no case can one person be paid for more than one meeting attended on a single day. Payable at the end

of each fiscal year.

- Village Treasurer shall be fixed on an annual basis and determined at the time of appointment of this position, which is the first meeting of each fiscal year. Payment shall be paid in full and shall be payable either at the end of the fiscal year or on a monthly basis.

- Village Economic Development Coordinator shall be fixed on annual basis and determined at the time of appointment of the position, which is the first meeting of each fiscal year.

- Village Planning Commission shall be fixed on annual basis and determined at the time of appointment of the position, which is the first meeting of each fiscal year.

These changes are effective May 1, 2021 as applied to those positions that are elected during the April 2021 election, and also will apply to those elected during the April 2023 election.

The last increase the village approved was in 2007. The motion to approve the above

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Several new Mendota High School teachers were introduced to board members during the Sept. 21 board of education meeting. They include, seated left to right, Nicole Cromwell, science; Kristi Barajas, special education; Paula Baker, band; back row, Joe Hughes, science and Jon Steben, choir. (Photo contributed)

FY21 budget approved, new teachers welcomed at Mendota High School

By **BONNIE MORRIS**

Editor

MENDOTA — Mendota High School Principal Denise Aughenbaugh introduced five new teachers, Paula Baker, band; Kristi Barajas, special education; Nicole Cromwell, science; Joe Hughes, science and Jon Steben, choir, during the District 280 Board of Education meeting on Sept. 21.

Aughenbaugh commended the new teachers for their resilience, hard work and professionalism during this unusual start to the 2020-21 school year.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

SAT tests, Oct. 14

Aughenbaugh said the U.S. Department of Education and the State of Illinois are still mandating in-person SAT testing for students to earn a high school diploma. Because seniors did not take the SAT last spring during the shut down, they will be given the SAT on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

The test will be given to about 125 seniors in multiple rooms at MHS. Seniors who do not take the test that day will have to take it with the junior class in April in order to graduate.

Prusator said he was very disappointed that there was no flexibility from the federal government on the SAT waiver and he felt the state could have pushed back harder as well. "It's just common sense to be flexible with the SAT right now," he stressed. "Many colleges are not requiring it any more and not all students are going on to college. It's hard enough to open the school year under these circumstances and then a few weeks in we have to do this. It's just stupid. The remote learners will have to come to school when they are not comfortable doing so. It makes absolutely no sense."

Professional Development

Due to the calendar changes, there are no early dismissals this school year for professional development. Teachers utilize time

after school each day for professional development and share planning needs. The emphasis is on innovative technology and teaching with teachers introducing and exploring numerous online learning resources. MHS also provided additional training to teachers on COVID-19 precautions and safety.

Homecoming & IHSA

Homecoming week will be held during the spring semester when football schedules are finalized. Activities will be based on Coronavirus guidelines for safe gatherings at that time. Aughenbaugh said MHS hopes to at least have a spirit week for students.

The IHSA Board of Directors met on Sept. 14 and updated their Return to Play guidelines for sports. (Visit www.ihsa.org for the complete report.) IHSA waived the 2020-21 season limitations for winter, spring, and summer sports that would have restricted those sports to no more than two contests per week. The winter, spring and summer seasons will now revert to their "normal" season game limitations as dictated by IHSA by-laws. The IHSA summer season will also meet two weeks earlier than previously announced.

Aughenbaugh encouraged everyone to visit the high school's activity calendar link at www.mendotahs.org for all athletic and activity updates and changes. "We will have a year of constant rescheduling and will make every attempt to keep our community and families informed," she said.

AUDIT REPORT

Russ Rumbold of Gorenz & Associates, who presented audit report, said the district remained in the Financial Recognition category again this year with a Financial Profile Score of 3.65. The score is determined by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Rumbold noted that District 280 receives most of its funding from local sources

including real estate taxes (48 percent) and local revenue (20 percent). The remaining revenue comes from state funding (24 percent) and the federal government (8 percent).

Currently, MHS spends about \$4,000 less per pupil than the average school district in Illinois. He noted that the district's fund balances are strong and said this was another good year for the district financially.

OTHER BUSINESS

- The board approved the FY21 budget: revenue of \$9,826,282; expenditures of \$10,408,240; deficit of \$581,958. Prusator said the deficit amount is misleading because \$780,000 is for work that will be done on the building next summer. While that is not the full cost of the projects, that amount has to be paid this year and the rest will be paid next year. "If you subtract the projects, there is actually a \$306,000 surplus in the budget," he said.

- Prusator thanked board members for agreeing to delay the start of the school year until Sept. 8. "It was a great decision by the board - the number of COVID cases declined during that time and because of the work everyone did to get ready, no one batted an eye at coming back to school," he said.

Because students and teachers have now had 10 days to get acquainted with each other, Prusator said the high school is much more prepared if it becomes necessary to go completely remote. "We're ready, but we couldn't have accomplished that without being here these past 10 days," he emphasized. "You trusted what we recommended and your decision benefitted us."

PERSONNEL

The board accepted the retirement resignation of Rich Johnson and the resignation of Katie Fox, freshman girls basketball coach.

The next regular board of education meeting will be held at the high school on Monday, Oct. 19 at 6 p.m.

LaSalle Co. to hold free electronics recycling

OTTAWA — A free electronics recycling event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 8 a.m.-noon at the LaSalle County Government Center, 707 E. Etna Road, Ottawa.

The event is for LaSalle County residents only and pre-registration is required. Register online (preferred) at <https://lasallemccounty.as.me/> or by phone at (815) 630-4308

Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-noon.

There is a limit of two televisions per vehicle. The event is not open to businesses and oversized loads may be refused.

Accepted items include cables and sat-

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Conkey Award winner

The 39th Annual Conkey Family Award winner was announced on Sept. 18 at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center in the Serenity Garden. Darci Kettleborough, RN from the Surgical Services Department from OSF Saint Paul, was named this year's winner. She has been caring for patients for nearly 34 years and is described by her nominator as inspiring. "Darci's kindness and caring is evident to ensuring that each patient feels like they are the only patient. She is compassionate and is carrying out God's word throughout her work," said her nominator. Left to right, are Heather Bomstad, Vice President/Chief Nursing Officer; Kettleborough; Dawn Trompeter, OSF Saint Paul President; and Leonardo Lopez, MD, Chief Medical Officer. (Photo contributed)

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Illinois Avenue additions

Decorative benches and trash cans have been added to Illinois Avenue as part of the ongoing beautification project to the downtown Mendota street. The project is winding down, with the installation of street lights and a few other minor additions yet to be completed. (Reporter photo)

LOCAL AND AREA

Obituaries

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Ronald L. Rebholz

MENDOTA - Ronald Lee Rebholz, 63, formerly of Mendota passed away Sept. 20, 2020 at his home in Buchanan, Tenn. surrounded by family after a long battle with brain cancer.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Saturday, Sept. 26 at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Rev. Tony Dieckmann officiating. Burial will be at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday at the funeral home. The family wishes to thank everyone in advance for adhering to COVID guidelines of wearing a mask and practicing social distancing.

As a lifetime Chicago Cubs fan the family kindly requests all guests to sport Cubs attire in his honor. Additionally, if you have an old car, a fast car, or just a real cool car, feel free to bring it out to the Moose from 2-5 p.m. on Saturday. The family is trying to send him off with all his favorite things.

Ronald was born March 1, 1957 in Mendota to Earl and Lois (Smith) Rebholz. He married the love of his life, Joann Walzer on July 14, 1979. She preceded him in death on July 13, 2016 after nearly 37 years of marriage.

Ronald graduated from Mendota High School in 1976 with his sister by his side. His junior year he met his high school sweetheart and soul mate Joann. Joann and his sister, Donna did their part on the dance team to cheer on Ronald as he starred on the basketball team averaging 22 points a game. Ronald and Joann welcomed the first of two daughters, Jill Renee, in January of 1984 and their second, Lori Jo, in June of 1985. He was such a proud father and spent every vacation day he had to attend every single athletic event they played in. He may have only had two daughters, but he was a father to so many more. Ronald worked at Caterpillar Tractor Company for 17 years while residing in Pontiac before moving back into his childhood home. Once back in Mendota, he began working for the City Streets and Parks Department. He then retired after giving 20 hard years to the city he cared so much for. He was known for his love of antique cars, auto detailing, and his favorite furry friend, Oliver. He shared his love of old cars and fast cars so much with his brothers, Raymond and Donald, and brother-in-law, Dean and from attending several car shows with them and watching Donald from the stands when he raced his stock car.

Ronald was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Raymond Rebholz on June 18, 2020.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to assist his family with funeral expenses.



Book drive fundraiser to benefit Mendota youth

MENDOTA - Our nation is in a literacy crisis. Although 100 percent of Kindergarteners report wanting to read for fun, by 4th grade the number drops to 54 percent, and by high school, it is only 19 percent. The good news is there are simple things we can do to help.

Book ownership matters. A 20-year global study showed that children who have plenty of books in their home complete more education and earn more per year.

In partnership with the Graves-Humes Public Library, Jennifer Bast (Foulk) hopes to promote literacy and inspire a love of reading at a young age in local youth.

Bast is asking the community to join her and Graves-Hume Public Library in supporting local families through the Chamber's

"Mendota Christmas." They hope each child attending this event will go home with a free book. Each \$25 donation provides 2-3 children with a new book, a simple way to give back and provide a new book in time for the holidays.

Over the next month, the goal is to raise \$3,000. Combined with 50 percent donation matching from Usborne Books & More, this will provide Mendota with \$4,500 in books. With just 120 donations of \$25, this goal can be reached.

Donations can be made at <https://www.gofundme.com/manage/dt5b-nr-books-for-mendota>. All donations are tax deductible.

"I hope you'll have the opportunity to partner with us in making a difference for these amazing children," Bast said.

Sublette

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ordinance was approved 6-0.

Trick or Treat

Acting Village President John Stenzel asked Village Clerk MacKenzie Belan to look into whether or not the village could have Trick or Treating hours this year. Belan said that as of the meeting, the Lee County Health Department has not come out and said no Trick or Treating. She said she talked to the 4-H Club, which normally hosts an event for Halloween, and the club said they are not going to do anything this year. She said she also spoke with Pastor Brian McWethy of Grace Fellowship Sublette, and reported that the church is planning on doing something. Belan said that certain things should be followed this year for Trick or Treating like the treats already in a bag and the bags on a table in the front yard, so children won't be going up and ringing the doorbell.

Sublette Village Trustee Julie Kessel said she feels it's up to the parents if they

want their children to go Trick or Treating, adding that residents can turn their lights off if they do not want Trick or Treaters.

The board decided to hold off setting a date, time, guidelines for people, until the next board meeting.

In other board news:

- The board discussed rentals at the Ellice Dinges Center and recommended directing Ellice Dinges Center Janitor Freddy Arteaga to write requests down for 2021, but that nothing is guaranteed.

- Economic Development Chair Don Dinges said he is working on a tentative schedule for 2021 events, and that as of right now, it does not look promising for having the Sublette Christmas Walk.

The next Sublette Village Board meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 12 at the Ellice Dinges Center.

GRAVES-HUME PUBLIC LIBRARY

Free craft projects for kids

MENDOTA - Graves-Hume Public Library is branching out in a new direction. Due to the inability to host in-person programs for youth at this time, the library staff has put together crafts for children, which may be picked up at your leisure.

Each month, there will be an age-appropriate craft project for different age groups, just as if the library was hosting in-person activities. The library will offer a craft for: Shake Rattle & Read (birth-2 years), Small Fries (3 years-Kinder-garten), Grades 1-4 and Grades 5-8. The crafts are free and come with all or most of the items needed to complete. Everyone is welcome to take part; a library card is not required.

Carolynn Ohlendorf, Children Services, looks forward to offering these activities. "Even though we are unable to host programs in person, we wanted to provide some fun crafts for all our littlest patrons," she said. "I truly miss seeing all my little friends, and I can't wait until we can all meet again."

Craft projects will be available each month from September through December. Anyone wishing to get a free craft for their child should simply stop in at the Graves Hume Public Library to pick it up. There is no need to register.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

MENDOTA - Graves-Hume Public Library is hosting a one-time family craft project this fall, "The Great Library Pumpkin Contest." Everyone is invited to get a pumpkin from the library beginning this week and take part in the event.

Just stop by and pick up a pumpkin provided by the library and decorate it in ANY way with ANY materials you choose. Please note - carved pumpkins will not be accepted. Bring the pumpkin back to the library no later than Oct. 13 so the community can vote on their favorite. Voting begins Oct. 13.

The library will award the top two pumpkins with a gift card for Mendota Chamber Bucks. All children who participate will receive a participation prize. No library card is required.

Recycle

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ellite receivers, cameras, cash registers and credit card readers, cell phones and accessories, chargers, circuit boards, computer servers, computers and computer parts, copiers/printers/scanners/fax machines/type-writers, DVD/VHS players, external hard drives, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, ink and toner cartridges, laptops/tablets/eReaders, mice and keyboards, micro-waves, monitors-all types, MP3/iPods/etc., networking equipment-modems, switches, routers, hubs, phones and telecom equipment, projectors, rechargeable

batteries-lithium ion, Ni-Cd, lead acid, Ni-Mh, stereos/radios/speakers, televisions-all types, Uninterrupted Power Supplies, video game consoles, wire, cables and Christmas lights.

Non-accepted items: loose alkaline batteries (accepted while contained in electronic devices), liquid containing items, Freon containing items (A/C units, dehumidifiers), white goods (refrigerators, freezers), thermostats, light bulbs.

For information not regarding registration, call LaSalle County Environmental Services and Land Use at (815) 434-8666.

CARL'S QUIZ

What is a Hupmobile?

The answer to last week's quiz is: Sneezing with your eyes open is impossible.

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

Mendota Weather

Sept. 23, 2020

Seven Day Forecast

Wednesday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 76 Low: 53

Thursday
Mostly Sunny
High: 77 Low: 54

Friday
Sunny
High: 79 Low: 58

Saturday
Partly Cloudy
High: 82 Low: 60

Sunday
Isolated T-storms
High: 75 Low: 55

Monday
Sunny
High: 70 Low: 48

Tuesday
Sunny
High: 68 Low: 49

In-Depth Forecast

Wednesday we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 76°, humidity of 49%. South southwest wind 3 to 9 mph. The record high for Wednesday is 91° set in 2017. Expect partly cloudy skies Wednesday night, overnight low of 53°. Southwest wind 6 mph. The record low for Wednesday night is 29° set in 1995. Thursday, skies will be mostly sunny, high of 77°, humidity of 58%.

Regional Cities

City	Wednesday		Thursday	
	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx
Aurora	78/55	mc	78/55	s
Champaign	77/55	mc	76/54	pc
Chicago	78/58	mc	77/59	pc
Freeport	76/53	mc	75/53	pc
Joliet	78/56	mc	78/56	s
Moline	78/56	mc	78/56	s
Peoria	76/56	mc	78/57	s
Rockford	78/55	mc	77/54	pc
Springfield	76/55	mc	77/56	pc

Last Week's Local Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip	Rainfall
Monday	76	55	74/51	0.00"	0.00"
Tuesday	79	56	74/51	0.00"	0.73"
Wednesday	83	56	74/50	0.00"	-0.73"
Thursday	73	53	73/50	0.00"	
Friday	65	49	73/50	0.00"	Average temp..... 62.1°
Saturday	67	41	73/49	0.00"	Average normal..... 61.6°
Sunday	73	43	72/49	0.00"	Departure..... +0.5°

Data as reported from Peru, Ill.

Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	Last
First 9/23	6:45 a.m.	6:50 p.m.	2:06 p.m.	11:20 p.m.	10/9
Thursday	6:46 a.m.	6:49 p.m.	3:06 p.m.	Next Day	
Friday	6:47 a.m.	6:47 p.m.	3:58 p.m.	12:16 a.m.	
Saturday	6:48 a.m.	6:45 p.m.	4:41 p.m.	1:16 a.m.	
Sunday	6:49 a.m.	6:44 p.m.	5:16 p.m.	2:20 a.m.	New 10/16
Monday	6:50 a.m.	6:42 p.m.	5:47 p.m.	3:23 a.m.	
Tuesday	6:51 a.m.	6:40 p.m.	6:13 p.m.	4:26 a.m.	

Local UV Index



UV Index

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

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

National Weather Summary This Week

The Northeast will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with the highest temperature of 79 in Findlay, Ohio. The Southeast will experience mostly cloudy skies with isolated showers and thunderstorms, highest temperature of 88 in Marathon, Fla. The central United States will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with isolated rain, highest temperature of 95 in Roma, Texas. In the Northwest there will be partly cloudy skies with isolated showers, highest temperature of 85 in Clarkston, Wash. The Southwest will see mostly clear skies with the highest temperature of 106 in Salton City, Calif.

Weather Trivia

How far away from a lightning bolt can you be to hear thunder?

Answer: In most areas, you can hear thunder as far as ten miles away.

Weather History

Sept. 23, 1983 - A thunderstorm caused a timber blowdown in the Kaibab National Forest north of the Grand Canyon. Two hundred acres were completely destroyed and scattered destruction occurred across another 3,300 acres.

Sept. 24, 1926 - The temperature at Yellowstone Park dipped to nine degrees below zero. It was the coldest reading of record in the United States during September. Severe freezes were widespread over the northwestern United States, causing great crop destruction.

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OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

Joseph R. Sester

MENDOTA - Joseph Raymond “Joe” Sester, 81, of Mendota passed away peacefully Sept. 15, 2020 at his home.

Visitation was from 2-4 p.m. on Sept. 20 at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota. Mass of Christian Burial was at 11 a.m. on Sept. 21 at Saint Patrick Catholic Church, LaSalle with Father Tom Otto officiating. Burial followed at North Kingston Cemetery in Genoa at 2 p.m. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, everyone attending was asked to wear a mask and use social distancing guidelines.

Joe was born in 1939 in Genoa to Raymond “Bub” and Isabel (Rubeck) Sester, as the eldest of seven boys. He married Corinne Eide on June 21, 1957 in Sycamore.

Survivors include his wife of Mendota; three children, Christopher (Rayanne) Sester, Scott (Dana) Sester and Michele (Duane) Brotherton; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and three brothers, Ronnie, Norman and Gayle Sester.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Lindsay, Gary and Kirk Sester.

In 1956, Joe, the beguiling running back of the Genoa Kingston High School football team, captured the eye of his high school sweetheart and future wife, Corinne. The day after Joe’s high school graduation, he grabbed his suitcase, a graduation gift from his grandmother, and they hopped on a bus from Sycamore to O’Hare for a final destination of North Carolina. After a fruitless elopement, Joe and Corinne officially tied the knot in Sycamore. Joe was hired in 1957 as a telephone installer for Leich Electric. He and Corinne and their dog, Poochie hit the road for three years, traveling across the U.S. to various job sites and enjoying many adventures as a new couple. They had their first child, Christopher in 1960 and lived in Genoa until the telephone company transferred them to Mendota in 1962. In Mendota, Joe worked as switchman at the telephone company (General Telephone, now Frontier) until he retired at age 60. He also loved to share his trade, hosting numerous grade school class field trips at the local Mendota telephone office, showing the kids the fascinating insides of the telephone switch room. He became known in the state as the go-to-guy and was sent to resolve the most difficult trouble-shooting assignments.

When Joe set his mind on doing something, there was no stopping him. In 1977 and 1978, he and his brother, Gayle built the Sester dream house on five acres north of Mendota. This was through two of the worst blizzards on record. He continued his day job at the phone company and managed to work on the house in the evenings and weekends, installing all electrical and plumbing - even with his right hand in a cast part of the time. In his 70s and 80s he was doing all of his own siding and roof replacements, car repairs, chopping down trees and taking care of their five acres. Joe felt his faith deeply and sincerely and always put others before himself. He would give you the shirt off his back if you asked. For many years, he drove fellow Mendota parishioners to church, lovingly provided communion to nursing home residents, wore out two Bible covers reading his Bible daily, and was a very active member in his local church. He was known to give people the last dollar in his wallet and helped out numerous strangers who needed help including a couple who showed up at their home door stranded. Without question, he drove them 30 miles in the middle of the night to their hometown.

Joe would want everyone to remember him with a joke or smile. Please pass on your favorite humorous story to brighten up someone else’s day, which is what he would want most of all.

The online guestbook may be viewed at www.merrittfh.com. Memorials may be directed to Saint Patrick Catholic Church in LaSalle, Holy Cross Church in Mendota or CBN [the Christian Broadcasting Company].



John T. Hartt

MENDOTA - John T. Hartt, 76, of Mendota died Sept. 17, 2020 in his home surrounded by his family.

Private family funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Sept. 22 at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Rev. Mary Bohall officiating. Cremation rites were accorded after the funeral. Private burial will be at Restland Cemetery, Mendota at a later date. Visitation was from 4-7 p.m. on Sept. 21 at the funeral home. Facemasks were required for entrance.

John was born April 1, 1944 in Galesburg to Omer and Frances (Cooke) Hartt. He married Carolyn Carr on June 16, 1963 in Mendota.

Survivors include his wife of Mendota; three daughters, Cindy (Jerry) Saylor of Mendota, Sandy Barkman of Mendota and Kelly Hartt of Chandler, Ariz.; one son, Rick (Jennifer) Hartt of Mendota; 11 grandchildren, Nick (Rachel) Kennedy, Adam (Tonya) Kennedy, Eric Salander, Tyler (Brittini) Salander, Delaney Lockard, Kassidy Barkman, Tyce Barkman, Dylan Schultz, Spencer (Madi) Evans, Macy Hartt and Brody Hartt; five great-grandchildren, Michael Rosales, Jonathon Rosales, Liam and Abby Salander and Laikyn Evans; and one sister, Mary Donnell of Mendota.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Bill Hartt.

John was a 1962 graduate of Mendota High School. He worked at Wayside Press in Mendota for 25 years and retired from Growmark in Yorkville.

Memorials may be directed to the family.



Clifford W. Schlesinger

PAW PAW - Clifford W. Schlesinger, 93, of Paw Paw, passed away at home Sept. 16, 2020.

An outdoor visitation was held from 2-4 p.m. on Sept. 20 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Compton. Graveside funeral service was at 11 a.m. on Sept. 21 at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery with Pastor Jeff Schlesinger officiating. COVID guidelines, the wearing of masks and practicing of social distancing, were observed for the visitation and funeral.

Cliff was born May 12, 1927 in Compton to Phillip C. and Hilda (Kaufman) Schlesinger. He married June Adell Slotter on June 24, 1956 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Compton. She preceded him in death.

Survivors include two children, Connie (Craig) Ganz of Mendota and David (Cindy) Schlesinger of Earlville; a daughter-in-law, Connie Schlesinger of Paw Paw; six grandchildren, Michelle (Terrie) Bauer, Jason (Jaime) Ganz, Stephanie Ganz, Diane (Michael) Reppin, Scott (Katie) Schlesinger and Jayde (Sam Lipp) Schlesinger; seven great-grandchildren, Allison and Alexis Bauer, Connor Reppin, Emerson and Oliver Ganz, Lucas Schlesinger, and Eleanor Lipp; a brother-in-law, Rockwell (Mary Ann) Slotter of Mendota; a sister-in-law, Annabelle Myers of Thornsby, Alberta, Canada; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife; one son, Ronald Schlesinger; one brother, Newton (Freda) Schlesinger; and two sisters, Eleanor (Melvin) Mathesius and Corrine (Stanley) Rosenkrans.

Cliff was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Compton, where he previously served on the church council, and was an active member of the Paw Paw Lions Club. He was also active in his community. He previously served on the Lee County 4-H Board, Paw Paw Co-op Board, Lee County Farm Bureau Board and was a former member of the Cattlemen’s Association. Cliff was a lifelong farmer which, to him, was not just a job but his passion. He enjoyed traveling with his wife, watching tractor pulls, and scouting crops.

Contributions in Cliff’s memory may be directed to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Compton. Please visit www.TormanFuneralHome.com to sign the online guest book.

Janet P. Schmidt

MENDOTA - Janet P. Schmidt, 82, of Mendota passed away Sept. 17, 2020 at St. Anthony’s Medical Center, Rockford, after a brief illness.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:30 a.m. on Sept. 23 at Holy Cross Church, Mendota with Father Peter Pilon officiating. Burial was at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation was from 4-7 p.m. on Sept. 22 at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota and from 9:30 until 10 a.m. on Sept. 23 at the funeral home.

Pallbearers were Vince Gatza, Joe Gatza, Jesse Clinton, Andy Clinton, Jason Klein and Austin Ficke.

Janet was born Sept. 16, 1938 to Elmer and Lillian (Truckenbrod) Bauer. She married her high school sweetheart, James Schmidt on Oct. 26, 1957.

Survivors include three daughters, Donna (James) Clinton, Debbie (Frank) Gatza and Betty (Rick) Cook; one son, Dennis Schmidt; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter Carol; one sister, Eleanor Geuther; a brother-in-law, Ralph Geuther; sister-in-law, Anna Jeggie; brother-in-law, Ron Jeggie; and brother-in-law, Tony Witczak.

Janet graduated from LaMoille High School in 1956. She was a beautician for many years. Jim and Janet were members of the Holy Cross Church in Mendota, where Janet was a member of the altar and rosary society and sang in the church choir. She also volunteered for 20 years at Mendota Community Hospital, now known as OSF Saint Paul Medical Center. She loved spending time with her family playing cards and crocheting. She was a great cook and always had cookies for everyone whenever they came over. She also loved to play the organ and loved gardening. Her kids will always remember their childhood vacations spent fishing, swimming, and sightseeing. Jim and Janet also took many wonderful trips and cruises with friends and other family members. Janet’s favorite music was country music and at any time she was ready for another trip to Branson.

Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences can be sent to www.merrittfh.com.



Richard I. Garland

SUBLETTE - Richard I. Garland, 90, of Sublette died Sept. 14, 2020 at Rock River Hospice Home, Sterling.

A public visitation was held from 9 to 10:45 a.m. on Sept. 19 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Sublette. Face coverings and public distancing were required. A private family Mass of Christian Burial was at the church with Rev. Randy Fronck officiating. Burial with military honors was at St. Mary Cemetery. Arrangements were handled by Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Richard was born Nov. 3, 1929 in Princeton to Cornelius T. and Gertrude (Battin) Garland. He was the only one of his parent’s 11 children born in a hospital. He married Leila Ann Rapp on June 28, 1952.

Survivors include his wife; six children, Jerry (Pat) Garland of Sublette, Karen (Dan) Leake of Dixon, Sue (Maurice) Zimmerlein of Sublette, Patti (Jim) Heintzelman of Dixon, Dean Garland of Island Lake, and Roger (Michelle) Garland of Hilliard, Ohio; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one brother, Robert Garland of Springfield.

He was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Joyce Ann Garland; five sisters, Delores Chesley, Midge Hochstatter, Evelyn Ryan, Vivian Gabel and Rosmund Buckley; and four brothers, Joseph, Clifford, Virgil and Raymond Garland.


Richard served in the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry as a B.A.R. gunner during the Korean Conflict. He worked at Conco in Mendota until retiring in 1978 and then worked for Chicago Whiting Crane Company. He had also owned and operated the Garland Vault Business and with his wife, owned and operated the Garland Health Spa, both in Mendota. He was member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Sublette, the Elks Lodge in Mendota and was a volunteer fireman/ambulance driver for 18 years with the Sublette Fire Department.

Memorials have been established to Sublette Fire Department, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church and Rock River Hospice and Home.

Condolences may be sent online at www.thejonesfh.com.



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LOCAL AND AREA

MHS

Continued from Page A1

teacher would test positive for COVID-19 and we had our first student test positive yesterday [Sept. 15].”

When a student tests positive, the school provides the LaSalle County Health Department with the names and phone numbers of people who were exposed to that student. That includes anyone who was within six feet of the student for 15 minutes or longer. Aughenbaugh said the health department then does all the contact tracing. “They have been wonderful to work with, always available to answer our questions and they work very closely with our school nurse, talking almost daily,” she said.

Anyone who was exposed must quarantine for 14 days from the contact date. Prusator pointed out that this process is good because it is a way to prevent further spread and to keep people safe. In addition, any student who has any symptoms of sickness at all, such as a headache or sore throat, has to do a 10-day quarantine before they can return to school.

To keep the public updated, the MHS website [mendotahs.org] has a quick link to a COVID-19 dashboard with statistics on any quarantines, positive cases, recovered cases and overall enrollment. “I will try to update it daily so we can be as transparent and honest as possible with everyone,” Prusator said. “The worst thing is for rumors that are not true to get started. This way, anyone can check and see how many students are in school, how many positives we’ve had, how many are in quarantine, etc.”

Teachers

MHS English teachers Matt Gehm and Jenn Masini agreed that the first week of school went well for the most part. Gehm said students have been really good about mask-wearing, aside from an occasional reminder to someone to keep the mask on properly. “There hasn’t seemed to be any real push-back to wearing them,” he said. “I think the students understand the importance of wearing a mask to protect others and stop or slow the potential spread of COVID primarily, but other similar viruses as well. And if not, I think they understand that they do have to wear one in order to be here since remote learning is an option. In general, the students seem to be adjusting well to all the changes. I think that they are glad to be back and having some return to normalcy, even if it’s not a completely normal return.”

For Masini, masks and social distancing have presented somewhat of a challenge to learning and instruction this year. “But the health and well-being

of our students and staff is priority number one and I have been impressed by how cooperative my students have been in wearing their masks,” she said.

Masini noted that the short “mask breaks” during class when the teacher and students step outside, socially distance, and take masks off to get a breath of fresh air is helpful. “I do miss being able to smile at my students and seeing my students’ smiles,” she said. “Also, teachers have to speak louder while wearing a mask for students to be able to hear them, so strained voices have been a bit of an issue.”

As for teaching, Gehm said some adjustments had to be made to modify lessons and unit plans for the new block schedule. “But changing up the routine can be good,” he added. “It’s easy to fall into a rut and do the same things all the time, so the schedule change is good for us teachers in that regard.”

Gehm, who also teaches social studies, said he had a jump start on the changes because the social studies department put all their materials online when MHS went one-to-one and he did the same with his English courses. “That made the transition during the spring shutdown a bit easier for me personally, and as a department the other social studies teachers and I had to make only a handful of modifications so students could turn in their work,” he said.

Both Gehm and Masini said learning to use new technology tools such as Zoom has taken some time. “Many teachers put in many hours over the summer familiarizing themselves with technology tools such as Bitmoji/virtual classrooms, Flipgrid, Screencastify, and Zoom (just to name a few),” Masini said. “Another obstacle teachers will be faced with is providing instruction to students who may be in quarantine at home for extended periods of time, while addressing the needs of our in-person learners. It is a bit of a juggling act with lots of trial and error with Zoom and Google Classroom as we figure it all out.”

But Gehm said Zoom could also be a real game-changer for teaching students who have extended absences for surgeries or illnesses. “Now, a student who is home for a couple of days can receive similar instruction to the students who are in attendance,” he said. “It’s not exactly the same as being in-person, but it is a good substitute. Students will be better able to keep up with the coursework, so in that regard, this experience has been positive.”

Both agreed that it will take some time to feel totally comfortable with the new technology, though. “Like I tell my students, flexibility and patience are going to be the name of the game this year, and we are all going to have to give each other – and ourselves – a whole lot of grace as we adapt to the changes,” Masini said.

Looking ahead

Prusator emphasized that MHS wants to keep the high school open as long as they possibly can. His concern is that over time there may not be enough staff to do so. Currently, teachers who are quarantined have been able to teach from home using Zoom, which has worked well so far. “I credit the staff and Mr. Siri for their effort with this,” he said. “They have been extremely cooperative and we couldn’t have asked for more from them. We held so many meetings over the summer and had everyone involved in making decisions. Because of that, the people who are here feel safe.”

This semester, 99 of MHS’s 522 students opted for remote learning and do not attend regular classes. Those students are on a completely online curriculum and do not attend any classes via Zoom. Prusator said remote students have the same educational standards and are required to have 300 minutes of instruction per day, which is tracked through the software. “Some students are doing well with the curriculum, others are struggling, but it is still much better than it was last spring,” he noted.

Prusator said his main focus this year is keeping school open. “Everybody is very happy to be back at school and we are asking parents and the community to hang in there with us,” he said. “There will be challenges ahead but I believe the kids are safe at school. In fact, two of our remote learners have tested positive and they were not in school. I don’t think the virus is being spread at school because the kids are following the rules here. But when they’re at home and on the weekends with their friends, do they keep their masks on all the time? We can’t control that.”

Tax

Continued from Page A1

“And it’s really kind of a cruel hoax. I mean, the President’s essentially dangling this carrot in front of people. And I would say, this is that perfect scenario where all that glitters is not gold.”

According to an analysis by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, a worker earning \$50,000 a year would see a temporary increase of \$119.23 in each two-week pay period. But at the end of the year, that person would owe \$1,073.08 in deferred taxes.

Mendoza said she believes the program was devised to boost Trump’s re-election campaign.

“I mean, it couldn’t be any clearer,” she said. “And the fact that the President (this) week turned around and said that...if he gets reelected, he will forgive the payroll deferral and people wouldn’t have to pay it back. I mean, to me, that’s just a clear attempt to buy votes, he does not have

the legal authority to forgive the debt. And he doesn’t tell people that even if he could – which thankfully he does not – if he did, he’d be doing it at the expense of bankrupting Social Security, which millions of Americans rely on.”

Meanwhile, Mendoza said, the bigger threat to the economy is the possibility that Congress will not approve an aid package to help state and local governments that have seen precipitous declines in revenue due to the recession brought on by the pandemic, something Pritzker also warned about.

Preparing for what he called a “nightmare scenario” if Congress fails to pass an aid package, Pritzker said he has asked state agency heads to make plans for a 5-percent budget cut in the current fiscal, which ends June 30, 2021, and a 10-percent cut for the following fiscal year.

The Democratic-controlled U.S. House passed

such a bill in May, but it has languished in the Republican-controlled Senate where GOP leaders have argued that the federal government shouldn’t be asked to bail out states that were already in financial trouble before the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We’re not asking for the government to come in and bail us out for the self-inflicted wounds of the past,” Mendoza said. “We were on our way to fixing that and to getting back on stable fiscal footing. But without a doubt, the federal government has an obligation to step up for all states in the nation, and to help us supplement for the lost income directly related to COVID-19.”

(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.)

IVCC schedules live virtual Parent College 101 event

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College’s Admissions Office hosts a live, virtual Parent College 101 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29.

The free event is for parents and guardians of current high school students to provide information on the college search process, including topics such as when to start, the difference

between certificates and four-year degrees, and enrollment steps and timelines.

The Admissions team will be available to answer questions and a parent and student will share their perspective.

Go to www.ivcc.edu/visit or call (815) 224-0439 to RSVP or for information. Students are welcome to attend.

Moratorium on utility shutoffs is winding down in Illinois

By KEVIN BESSLER

The Center Square

SPRINGFIELD – Illinoisans unable to pay their utility bills during the coronavirus pandemic may soon be out of luck.

The shutoff moratorium for many state-regulated electric, water, sewer and natural gas utility companies – such as Illinois American Water, Nicor Gas and Aqua Illinois – expires Sept. 30. Ameren and ComEd’s moratorium ended Sept. 10.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker said he

plans to put pressure on the utility companies.

“It is my intention to continue to lean on them to do the right thing,” Pritzker said.

“I must say though that many of them have stepped forward to do the right thing on their own, some slightly more reluctant than others, but they have come to the table and we are going

to continue to work on that.”

Last week, Pritzker abruptly ended a news conference in Macomb after people in the crowd began chanting “No utility shutoffs.”

Jennifer Golz, media relations manager with Nicor Gas, said assistance is available for customers with past due bills.

“If those are customers who have been affected by the ongoing pandemic, they still have time to make account arrangements and learn how we might be able to help them,” she said.



Pritzker

MESSAGE FROM CITY

Political signs are not permitted on any city of Mendota property. Signs are allowed on the city right-of-way as long as the property owner maintains that property. All political signs must be removed by Saturday, Nov. 7.

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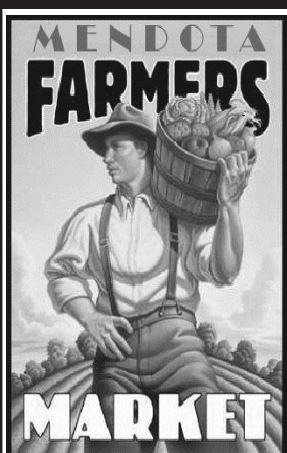
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OPINION



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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.

Anonymous elicits uncertainty

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD—I read The Atlantic magazine story asserting that Donald Trump denigrated America’s war dead, and then I cringed.

It’s certainly troubling if any president were to say such a thing. But I have no way of reaching an objective determination on whether it was said or not.

Why? The story is based on anonymous sources.

Not only do we have no idea who these people are, we have no idea why they are speaking up now – two years after – the alleged utterance. And we also don’t know what access, if any, they had to the president.

Regular readers of this column know I’m no fan of Trump. But I am a fan of good journalism. And The Atlantic story doesn’t make the cut.

Yes, there are rare instances where unidentified sources are necessary, but it has become all too common a practice in American journalism.

In this case, the journalist is asking us to take his word that he was told these things.

Sorry, I’m not biting.

“Not having any identified sources in that story makes it far less credible,” said Al Tompkins, a senior faculty member at the Poynter Institute, a journalism school for news professionals.

The cloak of anonymity makes it next to impossible to hold sources accountable. What if they are lying or simply mistaken? Their identity will never be known.

I remember 25 years ago, I had a source on the Moline City Council who would leak to me what was discussed in closed executive sessions.

After I published a story citing an unnamed source spilling the beans on a project the city was involved with, my source rose the next week, wagged his finger at his colleagues and denounced “whoever was leaking to the press.”

I sat there, notebook in hand unable to hold this person accountable without breaking my promise of confidentiality. In other words, I’d inadvertently given the fellow a ticket to lie.

Some might say that is an extreme example. But it really isn’t. People in government are routinely asked by supervisors, peers and other reporters if they were the confidential source in a news story. Do you think they tell the truth when they are asked? Don’t bet on it.

And sometimes it’s not the source who is lying.

“There are liars in every profession – including journalism,” Tompkins reminded me.

Friends have pointed out that The Atlantic is a prestigious publication and for that reason we should give it extra credibility. Well, I love the magazine and have subscribed for more than 25 years.

But I also know that Jayson Blair worked for the New York Times, Stephen Glass for The New Republic, Janet Cooke for the Washington Post and Jack Kelley for USA Today. And each of these scoundrels fabricated sources despite working for high-profile publications.

So, the prestige of a publication doesn’t make it immune to wrongdoing within its ranks.

It’s worth noting that the Associated Press and other news organizations have apparently contacted some of the same individuals as The Atlantic and been told the same things – not for attribution.

Well, if the magazine’s competitors could figure out who the sources were within a few hours, don’t you think the president and other administration officials have a pretty good idea who is talking, too?

So, if the political insiders are in the know, the only people being deprived of the knowledge are the readers.

And we have no way of evaluating the credibility of the information. In that light, what value does it have?

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

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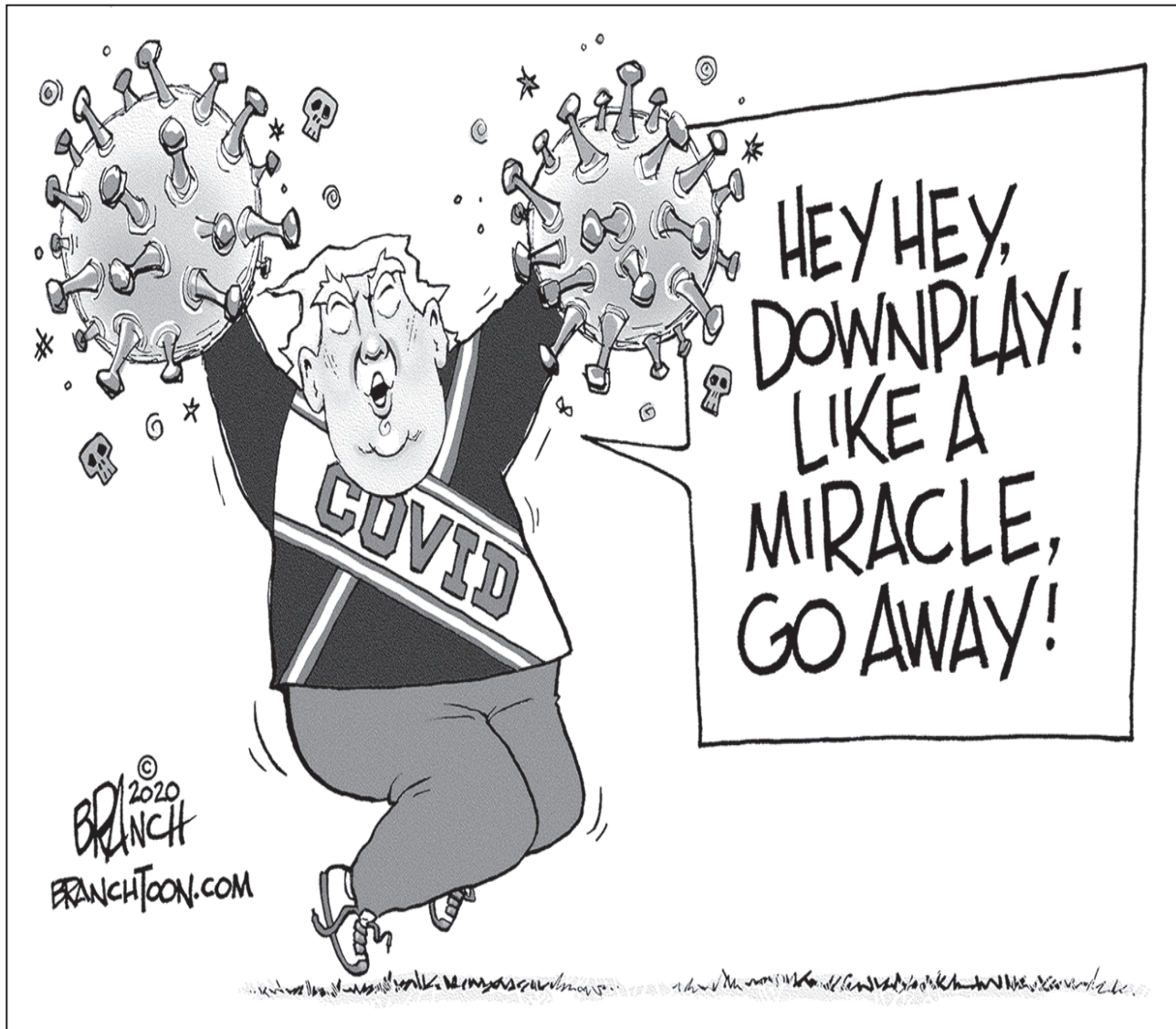
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Mendota Moose dedicate lodge – 1972

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Sept. 24, 1997)

By Jessica Nashold

It has been 25 years since the Moose Lodge east of Mendota was dedicated. The building project had started in 1969 with the purchase of 2 1/3 acres of land. The local lodge had been organized in 1926.

At the dedication ceremony, Sept. 24, 1972, Jack Tower, Americanism chairman for Legion Post 540, gave the address. Members of the Boy Scout Troop 110 presented the colors. The flagpole had been dedicated by Louis Baird and the flag by Robert Nearing and Les Winners.

The Church of the Nazarene announced the sale of the old Methodist church on Sixth Avenue where it had been meeting and the purchase of the Mendota Bible Church building at 1215 Sixth St.

New owners of the Methodist church were Terry Lampton and Larry Jacobsen of Antioch. They planned to restore the building because of its historical significance.

They will retain the colored windows, church bell and organ.

The Mendota city council passed an ordinance setting aside 96.85 acres of the Snyder legacy to be known as Snyder’s Grove. The balance of the property was to be leased to Earl Barr at \$40 per acre. This income, or any income from the Snyder acreage, was to be used solely for park purposes.

This action was taken in order to qualify for a real estate tax exemption. The 1972 tax on the 249.075 acres was \$3,745.81.

Barr was permitted to use timber or pasture in the grove, rent-free, but it was understood he would be given a 48-hour notice when park development was about to begin. He would also help to control weeds and clear dead wood.

Backtracks & Sidetracks

The director of the Illinois Department of Local Government Affairs spoke to the LaSalle County Mayors’ Association at a meeting at the Moose Lodge. The mayors protested the amount of red tape encountered in applying for grants.

Mendota’s Mayor Louis Koopersmith needed, but had not received, a variance in order to burn trees cut down because of disease. He was told he should have asked the State Pollution Control Board instead of the Environmental Protection Agency for this variance. The frustrated Koopersmith exploded.

It takes one man full time to keep up with all the regulations.

The elementary school board met Sept. 20, 1972, and declared the Troy Grove school building economically unusable. Its disposition would be determined at the Oct. 10 board meeting.

The Mendota Woman’s Club had made a defensive driving course available to the community, taught by a state trooper.

Some insurance companies offer reduced premiums to those taking the course.

Three meetings, one week apart, cost \$1.50, payable at the first meeting. A daytime course in the First State Bank community room could not accommodate all the applicants, so night courses were added. Arrangements were made by Mrs. Oden Jordal, Mrs. A.E. Claus and Mrs. Dan Copper.

Motorists who wanted to keep their 1972 license numbers in 1973 were given a Sept. 30 deadline to apply.

The earlier applications are

received the sooner the plates will be delivered.

Herbert Goslin of Goslin Drugs purchased the Pratt building at 707 Washington St. A new store front and entrance would be part of extensive remodeling. The Goslin store had been located at the corner of Main and Washington streets since 1940.

The Kanteen Mothers’ Board heard a request from the Kanteen Student Board that smoking by students be allowed. The mothers agreed to discuss the issue. The Kanteen would be open until 11:30 p.m. following the Ottawa game, with barbecue being served. After the Geneseo game, there would be hot chocolate and doughnuts. A 25-cent admission was charged on those nights.

In his SportsScope, Mike O’Connor mentioned that the Chicago Bears had a new head coach, Abe Gibrone. As Bobby Douglass, quarterback, had achieved only four completions out of 12 pass attempts in a recent game, O’Connor agreed with critics who thought Douglass would be a good halfback.

The Mendota Athletic Boosters Society (MABS) urged mothers to become members and attend meetings.

Governor Richard B. Ogilvie announced a trade mission to Russia. The group would depart Sept. 22, 1972, and its job would be to capture “every bit of extra business possible.” Ogilvie’s motivation –

Benefits will be felt by the Illinois farmers for years to come because of contacts that will be made.

Full text of Planning Standards for Comprehensive Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Mendota occupied eight pages in The Mendota Reporter on Sept. 20, 1972. Carl Gardner & Associates of Chicago was consultant.

Democrats should worry about mail-in voting

By Rich Lowry

There’s a giant scheme afoot to disenfranchise voters in November -- it’s called mail-in balloting.

Mail-in voting has, like many things in our politics, taken on the aspect of tribal warfare -- if President Donald Trump is vociferously against it, Democrats must be vociferously for it, and vice versa.

Absentee voting is unquestionably less secure than in-person voting, but there’s no evidence of widespread fraud. Nor is there evidence that, at least prior to this campaign, mail-in voting has favored Democrats, as the president believes.

There is inevitably going to be more mail-in voting in the fall, but in-person voting is superior. Only about one-hundredth of 1% of in-person votes are rejected, whereas rejection rates of 1% are common with mail-in votes, and some states exceeded that during their primaries this year.

This should be a five-alarm worry for Democrats. According to polling, almost twice as many Biden supporters as Trump supporters say they’ll vote by mail this year. According to NPR, studies show “that voters of color and young voters are more likely than others to have their ballots not count.” In another universe, if Trump were urging Democrats to stay away from the polls and instead use a method more likely to get their votes discarded, it’d be attacked as a dastardly voter suppression scheme.

There are at least three ways that mail-in voting could contribute to a 2020 nightmare. Trump could be winning on election night, and the outcome slowly reverse over time. Delayed by the volume of mail-in ballots, states could blow past the deadline for finalizing their results. And if the margins in battleground states are very close, rejected mail-in ballots could lead to protracted, high-stakes court fights.

More than a half-million ballots were rejected in this year’s

presidential primaries. Ballots are discarded for improper postmarks and signatures, and mail-in voters are also more prone to accidentally vote for more than one candidate or make other errors.

In its primaries, New York delivered up the perfect storm of ramped-up mail-in voting and inadequate preparation. In the 12th Congressional District, it took weeks to declare a winner, and the number of rejected mail ballots was roughly three times Rep. Carolyn Maloney’s 3,700-vote margin of victory over challenger Suraj Patel.

What happened in New York easily could preview the general election. NPR notes that more than 23,000 absentee ballots were rejected in Wisconsin’s primary this year, exceeding Trump’s margin in the state in 2016. Nearly 40,000 were rejected in Pennsylvania, where Trump won by 44,000 votes in 2016.

In light of all this, it makes sense, first and foremost, to try to make more options available for in-person voting.

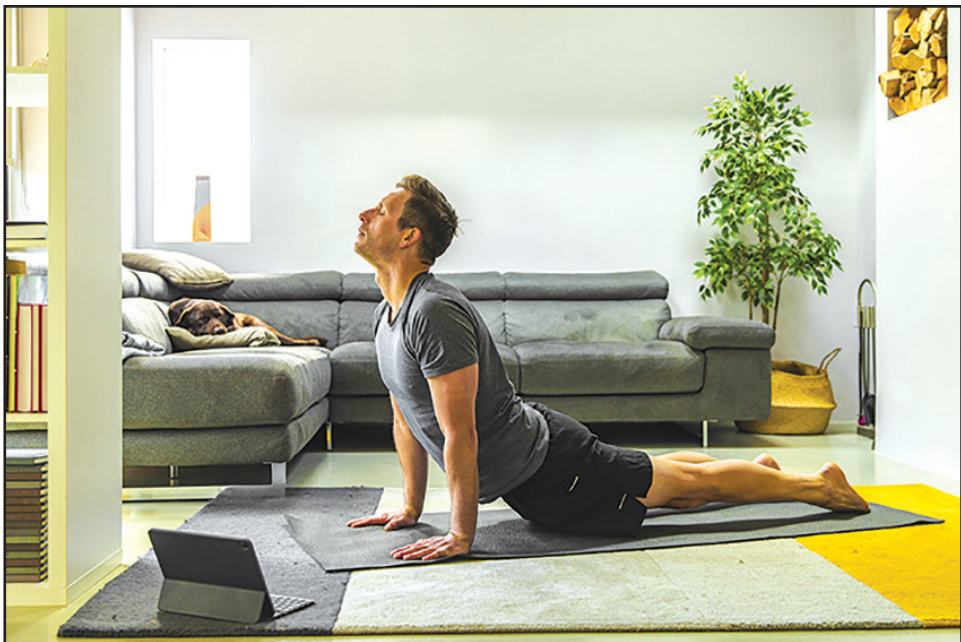
In addition, states should allow the counting of mail-in ballots prior to Election Day to minimize any swing in the count afterward. Congress should delay the date that states have to finalize their results, currently Dec. 8. And election officials and the parties should do everything they can to educate mail-in voters to do it correctly.

What should be intolerable is any attempt to change the rules after the fact, although it’s entirely conceivable that Democrats will feel compelled after Nov. 3 to argue that the mail-in voting that they’ve done so much to promote is desperately flawed and deeply unjust.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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HEALTH & FITNESS



An internet connection is all that's necessary to find a number of workouts that can be streamed from the comfort of home.

How to stay fit when social distancing

Many people consider their gyms much more than a place to exercise. A gym can be a great place to socialize while trying to stay healthy. Having friends or fellow fitness enthusiasts around also can provide the motivation many people need to stay the course and achieve their fitness goals.

The International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association says more than 70 million consumers visited health clubs in 2017. That marked a record high since IHRSA began tracking data in 1987. Fitness memberships also are popular in Canada. GoodLife, the largest fitness club in Canada, has 400 different locations and more than 1.5 million members.

Fitness centers were among the many non-essential businesses forced to shutter as a result of COVID-19, forcing fitness enthusiasts to find new ways to stay mentally and physically fit. Many creative ideas have surfaced.

- **Online classes:** An internet connection is all that's necessary to find a number of workouts that can be streamed from the comfort of home. The streaming website YouTube can be a gold mine for free workouts. Some cable service providers also may have On Demand fitness channels or rentals that can mirror some of the classes taken at the gym.
- **Social apps:** Gym-goers can inquire whether their gyms are offering alternative programs. For example, Jersey Strong, a fitness chain in New Jersey, began live-stream-

ing many of its popular group fitness classes via a special Facebook page. Class instructors guide classes from their own homes or from empty gyms. Other gyms may provide links to subscriber-based gym training workouts free of charge.

- **The great outdoors:** Even though some parks, beaches and trails have been closed, workouts can take place in and around the neighborhood. Jogging or walking can be excellent cardiovascular exercises, as can taking a bicycle ride for a few miles down neighborhood streets. People who live in rural areas can run through forested land or even farmland. Pushups, sit-ups, planks, and other body weight exercises can be done right in the backyard. Before making a decision about whether or not to be active outside, be sure to check the latest guidance from your local health department and community or state leaders.
- **Remote sports:** Videos of city dwellers playing tennis across rooftops for much-needed air and exercise have emerged in recent weeks. Similar benefits can be achieved with a game of catch, volleyball or racquet sports over fences with neighbors, provided limits on participants are placed and social distancing is maintained.

Staying fit during COVID-19 restrictions takes some ingenuity, but it's certainly possible to maintain your overall health. In fact, some people have found they now have more time to exercise than they did before.

The health benefits of spinach

Doctors may not recommend their patients take dietary advice from cartoons, but people looking to eat healthy could do worse than to follow the example set by Popeye. The beloved, nearly century-old, musclebound cartoon sailor often credited his incredible strength to spinach, a nutrient-rich green vegetable that can benefit the body in myriad ways.

A 2010 study from researchers at Mahidol University in Bangkok found that children increased their vegetable consumption after watching Popeye cartoons. And while adults can certainly follow suit and watch more Popeye if they need motivation to eat right, many may only need to learn just how spinach affects their body to start including more of it in their diets.

- **Spinach is good for your bones.** The National Osteoporosis Foundation notes that green foods, including kale, spinach and brussels sprouts, are great sources of vitamin K and calcium, each of which promotes healthy bones. Spinach alone won't be enough to prevent broken bones or osteoporosis, but when coupled with exercise and an overall healthy diet, spinach can be a key component to keeping bones healthy and reducing risk for fractures.

- **Spinach can help fight off viruses.** The world received a crash course in immunology in 2020, when the global COVID-19 pandemic changed life as the world knew it, seemingly in the blink of an eye. As measures to prevent the spread of the virus took hold, individuals looked for ways to bolster their immune systems. Leafy green vegetables, including spinach, are loaded with vitamins and nutrients that strengthen the body's immune response. For example, vitamin A is fat-soluble vitamin that's vital for immune system function, and spinach is loaded with it. In fact, a single cup of



Many people may only need to learn just how spinach affects their body to start including more of it in their diets.

cooked spinach provides men and women with more than the recommended daily amounts of vitamin A as advised by the Institute of Medicine.

- **Spinach promotes a healthy heart.** Spinach is loaded with omega-3 fatty acids, antioxidants, B vitamins, and fiber, making it a heart-healthy food worthy of addition to anyone's diet. Spinach is especially rich in folate, which research has shown promotes the growth of healthy red blood cells necessary for a healthy heart.
- **Spinach can benefit your eyes.** Spinach is high in the

antioxidant lutein, which has been linked to eye health. Lutein naturally absorbs UV blue light, which is the most harmful wavelength of sunlight. But it's important that people recognize that uncooked spinach tends to be the most effective way to consume it and still benefit from lutein, the effects of which may be minimized when the spinach is cooked.

Whether they eat spinach thanks to the influence of a beloved cartoon character or after reading about the leafy green vegetable's many health benefits, people who include spinach in their diets can reap a host of rewards.

Why the flu shot is so important in 2020

Millions of people across the globe get flu shots each year. Flu shots protect people against influenza, but they might provide even greater benefits in 2020.

As the world continues to confront the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, it's imperative that people everywhere take every step necessary to protect themselves and others. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that a flu vaccine will not protect people against COVID-19. However, flu vaccines have been shown to reduce the risk of illness related to the flu. Those illnesses weaken people's immune systems, making them more vulnerable to other viruses, including COVID-19.

Flu vaccines have also been shown to reduce the risk of hospitalization. That's a significant benefit of being vaccinated, as people who get their flu shots can indirectly help hospitals conserve potentially scarce resources. As the COVID-19 virus rapidly spread late in the winter of 2019-20, many hospitals across the country and even the globe were stretched incredibly thin. So anything ordinary citizens



Flu shots protect people against influenza, but they might provide even greater benefits in 2020.

can do to alleviate such burdens can help save lives while also making hospital workers' jobs easier and less stressful.

Many people may be concerned about going out and getting a flu shot in 2020. That's especially likely for people who live in communities where the COVID-19 virus is spreading. However, the CDC notes that getting a flu shot in 2020 is an essential part of protecting your health and the health of your family. Many doctor's offices are now insisting patients wait in their cars until doctors are ready to see them, and masks may be required when entering the doctor's office. Such measures can

reduce the risk of getting the COVID-19 virus when visiting a doctor's office for a flu shot or another visit, so patients should not be hesitant to receive their vaccinations in 2020. Patients can follow such protocols even if their doctors are not insisting they do so. The same safety measures can be followed by people who intend to get their flu shots from neighborhood pharmacies.

Flu shots are vital to individual and public health every year, but the importance of being vaccinated against influenza in 2020 is heightened as the world continues to confront the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus.

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THE BACK PAGE

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Betty Strouss Smith would like to thank everyone for their expressions of sympathy, prayers, memorials, cards and food. Thanks to Michelle and her staff at Heritage Health for their wonderful care. Thanks to Catherine Wasmer of Wasmer Funeral Home for taking care of all our needs. Thanks to Father Pilon for his wonderful words of compassion at the cemetery.

Les Strouss & family
Robert Strouss & family
James Strouss & family

WEEKLY RECORD

LaSalle County (marriage licenses)
 Philip C. Antonini and Marie A. Anderson, both of Earlville; issued Sept. 11, 2020.
 Michael A. Gast and Katrina C. Simmons, both of Earlville; issued Sept. 11, 2020.
 Brennan T. Reeder and Stephanie M. King, both of Mendota; issued Sept. 17, 2020.

BLESSED EVENTS

OROZCO—Mr. and Mrs. Jose Cruz Orozco (Valentina Leyva) of Mendota, Sept. 19, 2020, at Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru.

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Governor promotes census two weeks from deadline

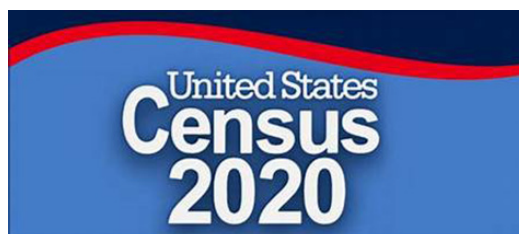
By **RAYMON TRONCOSO**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD—Gov. JB Pritzker appeared in Macomb last week to promote the census less than two weeks before the Sept. 30 deadline for responses.

As of Sept. 17, Illinois was 16th in the country for “total enumeration,” or the percentage of households in the state that have been counted in the census, at 96.2 percent. The state has been above average when it comes to self-response when household representatives fill out the census themselves by mail, through the phone, or online.

With a 70.5 percent self-response rate, Illinois is seventh in the nation, and first among states with a population over 10 million.

The state’s total enumeration has been dragged down by the difficulty census workers are having reaching households. Door-knocking census takers will go to households that have not yet filled out a census response and record the information of who lives there, a process recorded by the U.S. Census Bureau as “enumerated in nonresponse followup,” or NRFU. Illinois has an NRFU rate of 25.7 percent as



of last week, the 10th lowest in the country. The state’s highest self-response and NRFU rates have typically come from suburban parts of the state, with some rural and urban census tracts having lower records of response.

Census counts are directly tied to aid and funding from the federal government. A lower enumeration rate can equal hundreds of millions of dollars lost to Illinois over the next decade. It’s also tied to how many representatives the state receives in the U.S. House.

“The higher the count, the more of your federal tax money comes back to Illinois instead of going to other states,” Pritzker said at the Macomb news conference. “Just a one percent undercount could result in the state losing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal

funds, and that’s at a time when, frankly, we need those funds the most.”

According to Pritzker, Illinois is currently one of a few states that receives less money from the federal government than it pays in.

While the census count is normally completed by June, there is a federal lawsuit currently underway to extend the census deadline to an end date of Oct. 31 that was at one time scheduled due to the pandemic. The Trump administration shortened the deadline by a month in July, arguing the Census Bureau and state governments needed the census to be completed earlier to have enough time for the process of drawing new congressional districts and determining representatives.

Pritzker, however, said the state is approaching the deadline as if it is officially Sept. 30.

The census can be filled out at 2020census.gov or by calling 844-330-2020.

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



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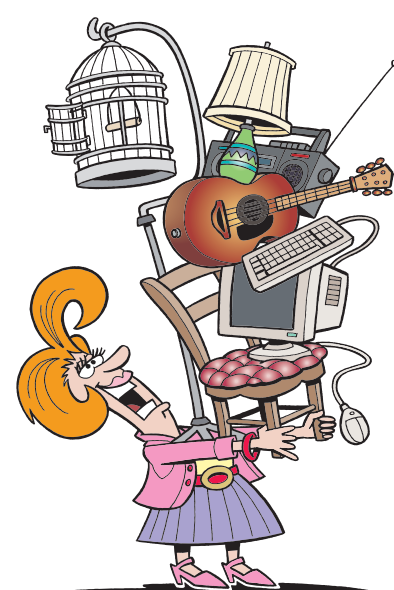
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The most effective place to reach more people is in The Mendota Reporter. We will be happy to assist you in placing your sale ad.

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To appear in Wednesday's Reporter

* On a week with a holiday, deadlines may change. Please call to verify.



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SPORTS



MHS golf

Members of the 2020 Mendota High School golf team, front row, left to right, are Zeke Hessenberger, Logan Brandner, Jack Mikolasek, Braden McPheeters, Cayden Escatel and Connor Egler. Middle row, Cale Strouss, Owen Aughenbaugh, Drake Dennis, Dominik Stamberger, Haden Shakespeare, Jace Baird, Sam Christmann and Ethan Hanaman. Back row, head coach David Ross, Kasen Novak, Jack Beetz, Kody Becket, Clayton Buffington, Liam McGann and Mateo Escatel. Not pictured, Xzavier Orozco. (Reporter photo)

MHS golfers take out 2 BNC foes

The Mendota Trojan varsity golf team kept up its winning ways, including victories over a pair of Big Northern Conference opponents.

The Trojans shot a 172 to win at Rock Falls on Sept. 15. Rock Falls only had three golfers.

Logan Brandner led the charge for Mendota with a low round of 40 and was the meet medalist. Jack Beetz wasn't far behind with a 42, while Ethan Hanaman carded a 44. The rest of the Trojan lineup consisted of Clayton Buffington (46), Owen Aughenbaugh (49) and Mateo Escatel (57).

Mendota claimed a 202-219 triumph in the junior varsity match.

MHS's Braden McPheeters captured meet medalist honors with a 46. He was followed by Drake Dennis (49), Kody Becket (53), Xzavier Orozco (54), Dominik Stamberger (55) and Cale Strouss (55).

The varsity Trojans had an easy time in dispatching Oregon, 173-202, on Sept. 16 at the Mendota Golf Club.

Hanaman shot a sizzling round of 38 to lead the Trojans and earn meet medalist honors. Beetz and Buffington tied at 44, while Brandner (47), Dennis (48) and Aughenbaugh (52) completed the lineup card.

Mendota's junior varsity squad cruised to a 191-230 victory over Oregon.

Escatel was the medalist with a 45. Also landing in the 40s were Orozco (47) and Becket (49). McPheeters (50), Strouss (51) and Stamberger (54) also competed for the Trojans.

Seven freshman-sophomore golfers also played a round of 9 holes for Mendota. They were Cayden Escatel (50), Jack Mikolasek (52), Connor Egler (54), Kasen Novak (61), Jace Baird (62), Sam Christmann (69) and Haden Shakespeare (73).

The Trojan varsity took second in a triangular at Spring Creek in Spring Valley on Sept. 21. Seneca fired a 179 to edge Mendota by one stroke, while Hall carded a 187.

Hanaman continued his quality play by shooting a 36 to claim meet medalist. It was his low round of the season. Brandner finished second for MHS with a 46, while Beetz and Buffington each had 49s. Dennis (51) and Escatel (54) rounded out the lineup card.

Mendota came out on top in the junior varsity match. The Trojans totaled a 195, followed by Seneca at 201 and Hall at 233.

Aughenbaugh and Orozco each had the low round among all golfers with a 47. Also competing for the Trojans were McPheeters (50), Liam McGann (51), Strouss (56) and Stamberger (57).



MHS cross country

Members of the 2020 Mendota High School cross country team, front row, left to right, are Billy Hall, Sam Lawrence, Alex Hermosillo and Dagen Setchell. Middle row, Bianka Valdez, Valerie Valdes, Alayna Nosalik, Nataliya Durban and Jamie Dooley. Back row, Rose Fouke, Eli Arjes, Ty Connelly, Trent Stamberger, Andrew Stamberger and coach Kevin Wohrley. (Reporter photo)

MHS harriers compete against Oregon, Lutheran

OREGON — Mendota High School's cross country team participated in a Sept. 18 race at Oregon along with runners from Rockford Lutheran.

In the girls' race, Lauren Spangler of Lutheran traversed the 3-mile course in 22:15 to take first place.

Mendota's top finish belonged to Nataliya Durbin

(16th, 26:06). Additional Mendota finishes: Bianka Valdez (20th, 27:04), Alayna Nosalik (21st, 27:05), Jamie Dooley (24th, 27:34) and Val Valdes (30th, 28:56).

Rockford Lutheran and Oregon both had 28 points, with Lutheran winning with the sixth runner. Mendota finished with 85 points.

In the boys' race, Oregon's

Ryan Hussung had the top finish with a clocking of 18:49.

Mendota was led by Trent Stamberger's 19:52 (5th), Andrew Stamberger and Ty Connelly (both 20:07). Rounding out the Trojan effort were Alex Hermosillo (11th, 20:32), Eli Arjes (12th, 20:45), Dagen Setchell (14th, 21:06), Billy Hall (17th, 22:08) and Sam Lawrence

(21st, 27:42)

Oregon posted the top team score of 36, while Mendota and Lutheran each tallied 43. Mendota won the tie-breaker with Setchell defeating Lutheran's sixth man.

The Trojans will race again against Rockford Christian and Winnebago on Saturday, Sept. 26 at the Lake Mendota course.

Pritzker defends decision on high school football

By PETER HANCOCK
Capital News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker said last week that he stands behind his decision to prohibit high school football for the fall season amid the COVID-19 pandemic, even as professional and many college leagues have decided to resume play.

"Over the summer, we saw outbreaks across Illinois and the world tied to a variety of youth sports leagues. Those continue today, even among the lowest risk youth sports," Pritzker said. "We have watched professional sports and even some college teams play seemingly without many problems. But remember that these programs are operating with daily testing or in a league-created bubble, or with facilities that allow for outsized social distancing and are sanitized every day. And, in some cases, all of those precautions have been taken."

Pritzker's comments came one day after the Big 10 conference, which includes the University of Illinois and Northwestern University, reversed its earlier decision and announced that it will allow the 2020 football season to go forward starting Oct. 23-24 under enhanced health and safety protocols.

The NFL also has allowed its season to go forward under safety protocols that include limited seating in the stadiums.

The Illinois Department of Public Health released its sports safety guidelines in July. Those guidelines divide various sports into three risk categories, depending on the level of physical contact involved, among other factors.

Football and hockey are in the highest risk category, meaning those teams are restricted to non-contact training. Basketball and soccer are considered medium risk, meaning they can have intra-team scrimmages but no competitive play. Baseball, golf and softball are considered low risk so they are allowed to engage in competitive games.

Football has been pushed back to the spring, along with boys' soccer and girls' volleyball. The only high school sports currently ongoing are cross country, golf, girls' tennis, and girls' swimming and diving.

"The science is the same for sports as it is for restaurants, meetings, nursing homes, you name the situation," IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said. "The more people you are around, the closer you are to them, and the longer you are around them, the greater the risk of transmitting COVID-19, and this includes colleges and universities."

Dr. Michael Lin, an infectious disease specialist at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, said that regardless of the level of contact involved in any particular sport, all contact sports present some level of risk.

"While a contact sport itself provides an easy way on the field for the virus to spread, it is also incredibly important to remember that there are many off-the-field activities that are associated with contact sports, such as athletes using locker rooms, working out in gyms, and traveling together that provide a perfect storm of conditions."



Princeton native to fill role as executive director of IESA

□ Former Nicole Coates promoted to post

BLOOMINGTON—Steve Endsley, who has served as the Executive Director of the Illinois Elementary School Association since 1996, has announced that he will retire at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year. It will conclude a career in education that started at Pekin Edison Junior High School in 1979-80. He is just the fifth person to serve as the Executive Director in the 92-year history of the Association.

Nicole Schaeffbauer will become the sixth Executive Director and the first female to lead the Association. She is the former Nicole Coates of Princeton. She is a 1991 graduate of Princeton High School and was a star athlete while at PHS. She attended the University of Notre Dame and was a four-year starter on the volleyball team.

Schaeffbauer started with the IESA in 1999 as an Assistant Executive Director and was promoted to Associate Director in 2001. During her time with IESA, Schaeffbauer has been the administrator for boys' and girls' basketball, girls' volleyball, track and field, chess, speech, music, scholastic bowl, cross-country, softball, and bowling. In addition, she has worked closely with the IHSA officials committee and organized the first ever IESA athletic director's workshop.

"It is both a tremendous honor and weighty responsibility to serve as the Executive Director of the IESA," said Schaeffbauer.



Schaeffbauer

"I thank the Board of Directors for their support and for entrusting this role to me. I look forward to continuing to work with the talented staff here at the IESA, the dedicated administrators, coaches and officials around the state and the whole IESA family to advance the mission of this organization. I am excited for this opportunity to expand my role and continue to serve the member schools and students participating in IESA sports and activities," Schaeffbauer and her husband, Skipp, live in Normal and are the parents of two daughters.

"It is hard for me to believe that I started with the IESA 32 years ago," said Endsley. "While we have accomplished so much over the years, I am only successful because of the IESA board of directors and staff, the member schools, the administrators, athletic directors, coaches, officials, and all of the other people that work together to give students an outstanding experience in education-based activities. My staff is unbelievable and they do not get the credit they deserve. We have worked together as a team to help make IESA the outstanding organization it has become."

"When I was hired, I was the fourth employee. Today we have nine employees. I am so proud of what we do for students in our member schools. Additionally, I am proud of the national presence IESA has developed. My whole goal when I became the Executive Director was to do things the right way and by doing so I believed that students would have really great experiences. I hope that has been the case."

Get on the water with the right kayaking gear

Kayaking is a wildly popular paddlesport. Paddlesports offer people unique ways to enjoy nature while getting up close and personal with expansive waterways. Kayaking is remarkably accessible for people of all skill levels and interests.

According to the Outdoor Foundation's 2019 Special Report on Paddlesports and Safety, kayaking has seen a consistent upward trend in participation for the last five years. Today, recreational kayaking is the most popular paddlesport, with more than 11 million participants in the United States. And the activity is almost evenly split among men and women (51 percent and 49 percent, respectively).

Many kayakers can enter the water with relatively no

instruction in kayaking and take to the sport like a duck to water. Of course, the right gear can make all the difference for both experienced and novice kayakers. Anyone who plans to be a consistent kayaker should probably invest in a kayak of his or her own. The right kayak depends on where kayakers plan to use it. Sea kayakers can sail easily through choppy conditions. Tandem kayakers carry two or more people and have more storage space. Touring kayakers are designed for long distance kayakers. Sit-on-top kayakers are ideal for beginners and casual paddlers.

Some additional supplies also can help kayakers get the most out of this rewarding activity.

- Paddle: Many kayakers are sold with compatible paddles. However, it is always a good idea to have a spare. Be sure to choose one made from sturdy materials, especially if it will be used in saltwater or brackish water.

- Life jacket: A life jacket is a must when on the water. While kayakers are relatively stable, should a tip-over occur a life jacket can keep you afloat and safe until you are able to reboard the kayak.

- Kayak racks and carriers: Kayakers can be transported to the water on roof racks that strap on to SUVs and cars. Kayak carts and trailers can help you comfortably move the kayak to the water's edge or dock, as kayakers can be heavy and cumbersome to move on your own.

- Spray skirt: A kayak spray skirt keeps water from splashing up and onto your lap/legs while in the kayak. Staying dry can make kayaking more comfortable in all seasons.

- Dry storage: Dry bags and containers keep items like a phone, camera and GPS devices dry and secure. These containers are designed to be water-tight when splashed or submerged.

Other kayaking supplies include dry shirts, special shoes, hats, and gloves. Coordinated fishing gear can even be purchased for those who want to catch some fish while kayaking.

Kayaking makes for a great day on the water. The right gear helps enthusiasts sail with ease.

ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Movie theaters are trying to figure out the best way to reopen. Will people still be afraid to go to a theater without knowing if the ventilation will filter out COVID-19? One way, of course, is drive-in movie theaters. However, it appears that moviemakers and studios think the way to get people back into theaters is with superhero films.



B. Affleck

Ben Affleck played Batman in "Batman v Superman" (2016), in an unbilled appearance in "Suicide Squad" (2016) and in "Justice League" (2017). Between 2014 and 2015, he was set to direct, co-write and star in "The Batman," but he decided to bow out of the project. This year the reason came to light when Affleck admitted to having a drinking problem. "The Batman" moved on without him, and Batman is now being played by Robert Pattinson. Filming

began in January 2020, and they shot one quarter of the film before shooting was suspended March 25 due to COVID-19. Shooting recommenced this month.

But Affleck isn't done playing Batman; he's before the cameras in the new "Flash" film being directed by Matt Reeves. Michael Keaton, Batman in Tim Burton's 1980 and 1992 films, also has been cast in the new "Flash" flick. "The Flash" is Ezra Miller, the 27-year-old co-star of "Perks of a Wallflower" (2012), "Trainwreck" (2015), the two "Fantastic Beasts" films (2016, 2018) and "Justice League" (2017).

The sequel of "Suicide Squad" (which grossed almost \$1 billion), will have Margot Robbie, Viola Davis, Joel Kinnaman and Jai Courtney returning, as well as new additions Idris Elba (originally cast to replace Will Smith as Dead Shot, but now in a new character instead), Alice Braga, Nathan Fillion, Pete Davidson, John Cena and former "Doctor Who" Peter Capaldi.

Another sequel coming is "Shazam! Fury of the Gods" (the 2019 original grossed \$365 million), starring Zachary Levi and comedian Sinbad. And not to be left out, Mr. Top Box Office, Dwayne Johnson, is set for the DC feature film "Black Adam," which also will star Superman himself, Henry Cavill. "The Rock" issued a message for existing DC superheroes Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, Flash, Aquaman and Cyborg: "Let them know something ... things will never be the same, the hierarchy in the DC Universe ... it's about to change."

Speaking of superheroes, Oprah Winfrey has decided to declare Election Day Nov. 3 a paid holiday for her employees at "OWN." She feels they should have the day off to deal with voting, and she's challenged industry companies to make it a paid holiday, too. You know she won't stop until it's a national holiday. Will that be every four years, like leap year? Stay tuned.

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Couch Theater

By Amy Anderson

It's been estimated by me -- in a very unscientific manner and not in any way related to real mathematics -- that video-game use is up 7,000% during the pandemic. At least, that's the way it feels when I find my child huddled in a corner talking to her iPad or when the explanation that the young person making a ruckus in the background of a Zoom call is that said young person is "in the middle of a battle."

I remember when playing video games involved a trip to the mall, a token machine and a certain centipede coming at me through a field of mushrooms. There are some quite nifty games out there since those days, and since there's nothing Hollywood won't appropriate, there's some nifty movies based on those games. Here are a few:

"Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" -- Adventurer-hot-lit Lara Croft (Angelina Jolie) faces down the Illuminati in an effort to retrieve

a powerful artifact that will come alive upon a particular celestial alignment.

"Pokemon Detective Pikachu" -- An officer goes missing and his adult son Tim (Justice Smith) goes on the case, aided by his dad's former partner, a funny, brilliant Pokemon (voiced by Ryan Reynolds).

"Resident Evil" -- This game spawned NINE versions, six of which feature Milla Jovovich in the role of Alice, our girl hero. In the classic, she's set off in the Hive -- under bombardment from a biological weapon that turns workers into zombies.

"Assassin's Creed" -- Michael Fassbender leads as Callum Lynch, who is pulled back to live the experiences of his ancestors and indoctrinated into a secret society, the Assassins, who battle the Knights Templar.

"Angry Birds" -- On an island full of sublimely happy birds, the anger management crowd turn out to be

unlikely heroes when faced with a menacing threat. This is especially true when the voice cast is chock full of "SNL" alum.

"Sonic the Hedgehog" -- The bright-blue phenom crashes on Earth, teams up with a human (James Marsden) and the pair go up against a proper villain: Dr. Robotnik, who wants to capture Sonic's speed and powers for evil doings.

"Mortal Kombat" -- Another film franchise with multiple installments, the premise is an alien overlord who forces three earthlings to battle, martial-arts style, against improbable foes in a tournament to decide the fate of the planet.

"Need for Speed" -- A mechanic races for his life perilously across country against a former race car driver in a showcase built around a video game about driving cars really fast.

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: We have watched all 11 seasons of the series "Heartland" on Netflix (twice) and hear they have produced seasons 12 and 13. Do you know when these will be available on Netflix? -- E.S.



A. Marshall

A: "Heartland" tells the story of two sisters and their grandfather looking after their ranch. It's a Canadian series, but was introduced to American viewers through Netflix, with the first 11 seasons available for streaming. As you wrote, there are two additional seasons that aired through the CBC in Canada. From what I could find out, the 12th installment should be available on Netflix this fall. In fact, the website "What's On Netflix" reported in June that it was expected by August. However, like most things in 2020, it's been delayed. For updates, check out Whats-on-Netflix.com.

Q: We rented the excellent World War II movie "Dunkirk" this past week-

end. I don't remember it in theaters. Did it win any Academy Awards? It should have. -- T.R.

A: "Dunkirk," directed by Christopher Nolan ("Inception," "The Dark Knight"), was released in 2017 and was awarded Oscars for Best Achievement in Sound Mixing, Sound Editing and Film Editing, but the Best Picture Oscar was elusive. Although "Dunkirk" lost to Guillermo del Toro's "The Shape of Water," it was still a fantastic movie about the rescue of trapped Allied soldiers from a beach in France. The biggest names in the film are Tom Hardy and Kenneth Branagh, but actor Fionn Whitehead, who played the lead young British soldier, gave a heart-wrenching performance.

Q: I know David Foster married the much younger Katharine McPhee, but has his ex, Yolanda from "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills," found love again? I never hear about her anymore. -- M.S.

A: I agree that we don't hear much about Yolanda Hadid since her battle with Lyme disease and exit from the "Real Housewives" franchise, but it looks like she's

much happier nowadays. The 56-year-old ex-model has three beautiful children who have all followed in her footsteps on the runway, and it appears that her ex-husband David Foster is but a memory.

Hadid recently wished her boyfriend Joseph Jingoli, a construction CEO, a happy birthday, calling him her "true love." She has said that "farm life has connected us," which is in her roots. Hadid grew up in the Netherlands and was hand-picked by Eileen Ford to sign with the Ford Modeling Agency as a teen. Now she lives on a farm 10 miles from her beau, initially spending time by herself after her divorce "for the first time in, you know, 53 years" before dating him.

She recently told "People" magazine that she made "a love spiral and wrote down exactly everything that was important to me in a man, and he magically just rang the doorbell at the farm." It sounds like post-reality-TV has been good to Hadid.

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

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• Trivia Test •

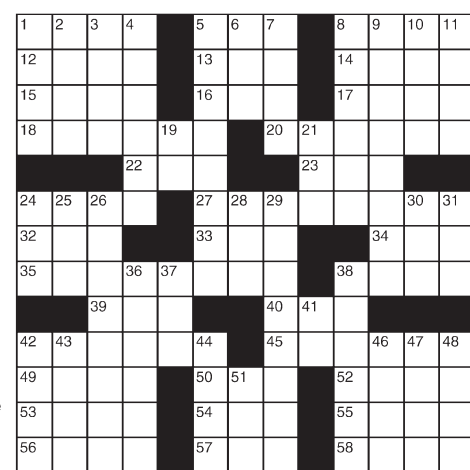
1. GEOGRAPHY: Which modern city was originally named Byzantium?
2. AD SLOGANS: Which national company's slogan is "We'll leave a light on for you"?
3. ANATOMY: Which bone are babies born without?
4. HISTORY: Which European monarch was known as the "Sun King"?
5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is Samhain?
6. MEDICAL TERMS: What is the condition formally known as diastema?
7. ART: Which famous painting is also known as "La Gioconda"?
8. LITERATURE: Where does Winnie-the-Pooh live with his friends?

9. MUSIC: Which country is the rock group AC/DC from?
 10. FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient in traditional hummus?
- Answers
1. Istanbul, Turkey
 2. Motel 6
 3. Kneecaps, which develop after birth
 4. Louis XIV of France
 5. A Gaelic festival Oct. 31-Nov. 1 celebrating the end of the harvest and beginning of winter
 6. A noticeable gap between two teeth
 7. Mona Lisa
 8. Hundred Acre Wood
 9. Australia
 10. Chickpeas
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Waller or Domino
- 5 " -- not choose to run"
- 8 Stoolie
- 12 Hardly ruddy
- 13 Calendar abbr.
- 14 In due time
- 15 Noble gas
- 16 Born
- 17 Loosen
- 18 Cowpoke of the pampas
- 20 Get new actors
- 22 Car-pool lane abbr.
- 23 Profit
- 24 Elevator name
- 27 Crucial experiment
- 32 See 12-Across
- 33 Heavy weight
- 34 Mainlander's memento
- 35 Midday party
- 38 Favorable votes
- 39 Raw rock
- 40 Boom times
- 42 Merry
- 45 This or that, it matters not
- 49 Sheltered
- 50 Possess



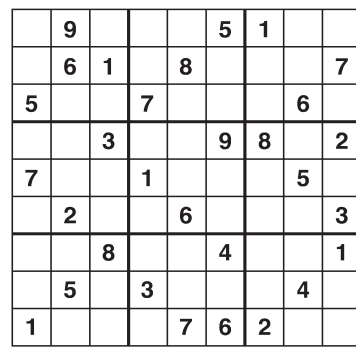
DOWN

- 1 Vampire tooth
- 2 Cruising
- 3 Grand
- 4 Harmonizes
- 5 Start something new
- 6 Buck's mate
- 7 Finished
- 8 Tap
- 9 From birth
- 10 Affirmative actions
- 11 Entanglement
- 19 Word after heave or gung
- 21 Finish
- 24 Night flyer
- 25 Greek cross
- 26 Guiltless
- 28 Bill and --
- 29 Sly slur
- 30 Glimpse
- 31 " -- the season ..."
- 36 Vinegar bot-
- 37 Coop denizen
- 38 Off
- 41 "Life of --"
- 42 Door-frame piece
- 43 Hodgepodge
- 44 Remove, as a cap
- 46 "Les Miserables" writer
- 47 Hebrew month
- 48 Stench
- 51 Simple card game

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

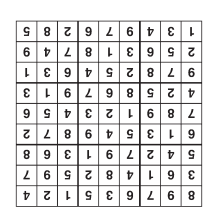


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Answers

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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* In early 2016, a 155-year-old mousetrap caught a mouse in a British museum. The trap was part of the exposition and hadn't even been considered operational for a long time.

* Bill Nye the Science Guy holds a patent for ballet pointe shoes.

* Some odd things have been sold online, but an entire country? Yep, a fellow from Brisbane, Australia, tried to sell New Zealand on eBay in 2006! The site closed the auction at a top bid of \$3,000.

* A mental phenomenon called the Troxler effect, discovered in 1804, causes people to see monsters in mirrors -- whether they say "bloody Mary" three times or not.

* In order to prevent Boggle players from using a certain swear word, the letters F and K appear only once on the same cube, making it impossible for them to both be played at the same time.

* In 1987, Steve Rothstein paid \$250,000 for a lifetime unlimited first-class American Airlines ticket, even hopping on planes to get a sandwich or go to a baseball game in other cities. It cost American Airlines around \$21 million, and they unsurprisingly ended his contract in 2008.

* A full 12% of sighted people dream exclusively in black and white.

* Levi's once made an all-denim tuxedo for singer Bing Crosby after he was refused admittance to a hotel simply for wearing jeans.

* Japan has the highest density of vending machines worldwide, with approximately 5 million machines, or one for every 23 people. You can buy everything from live lobsters and bread in a can to underwear and Buddhist amulets from a vending machine.

* Anakin Skywalker/Darth Vader meets six of the nine diagnostic criteria for Borderline Personality Disorder. Five are sufficient for a diagnosis.

Thought for the Day: "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance." -- Andy McIntyre

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Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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NEWSPAPER



Stay
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LOCAL AND AREA

Choosing words to improve your life

I remember when my grandson, who was three years old at the time, got ahold of a sheet of paper that had pictures of me on it, and he decorated it with all sorts of colorful stickers. When he came over to my house to surprise me with it, I couldn't help but notice that in just about every picture, there was a sticker over my mouth. I thought: Well, God, are You trying to tell me something?

It actually made me pay attention to the way I was talking. And that's

something we all should do, because there is no part of us that's harder to control than the mouth.

The Bible says that no man can tame the tongue (James 3:8). But that doesn't mean we can never improve the way we speak. We just need to partner with God to bring about the change we want to see.

The words we say are so important because they impact the anointing of the Holy Spirit—that is, the power and presence of God—in our lives. The power of God

is the most precious thing we have, and it's something we need to know how to protect.

One of the ways we can hinder God's anointing is by speaking with a mixture of faith and doubt. When we say a few positive, faith-filled words here, and a few negative, doubtful words there, it weakens God's anointing on our lives.

If we want to have God's power working in us and through us each day, then we have to be in agreement with God not just part of the time, but all of the time.

Protecting God's Power in Your Life

Without the anointing, everything is hard. And that's not what God wants for us. Jesus said, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:30 NIV).

God will never ask us to do anything without giving us the ability to do it, and He has equipped us with everything we need to live a powerful, victorious life. Acts 1:8 (NIV) says, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth."

Let's make this practical. Here are a few ways you can use words to protect God's anointing on your life:

Don't judge other people. For example, if you



want God's anointing to be on you for parenting, you need to be careful not to criticize other parents.

Don't complain. The Israelites wasted forty years murmuring and complaining in the wilderness, when they could have just obeyed God and entered into their Promised Land a lot sooner.

Don't ask God for someone else's anointing or to be like them. Embrace the abilities He has given to YOU.

Pay Attention to What You are Saying

Think for a moment how your words could be affecting your life right now. How do you talk about yourself, your present circumstances and your future? When you talk with your friends, what kinds of things are you talking about?

Ask God to help you form a habit of speaking positive words of faith every day. Words like, "I love my life and I have a great future. I can do whatever I need to do through Christ who strengthens me. And something good is going to happen to me today!"

Even when you're struggling to believe it, say it anyway. Because your words have the power to change your mind and your attitude when they agree with the truth in God's Word.

You'll also find that you have the joy and peace that come through simply believing the promises of God.

Agree with God, Change Your Life!

In Luke 1, God sent the angel Gabriel to tell Zacharias that he and his wife, Elizabeth, would have a son who would be anointed to be the forerunner of the Messiah.

Zacharias should have been so excited! But rather than believe the good news, he questioned the promise. So God supernaturally shut his mouth until the day his son was born.

If you want to live in the fullness of God's anointing, fill your mouth with His Word. Don't just carelessly speak what you think or feel or what other people say. You can have the promises of God fulfilled in your life if you will learn to come into

agreement with Him, do what He tells you to do, and say what He says.

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

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

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

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

MARKETPLACE

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

Estate of)
KAYWIN D. PARIS)
Deceased.)
No. 2020 P 158

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the death of KAYWIN D. PARIS. Letters of office were issued on August 24, 2020 to Cynthia L. Rippel, 610 W. High St., El Paso, Illinois 61738. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, C. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of court, La Salle County Courthouse, La Salle, Illinois, or with the representative, or both until March 16, 2021 or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. 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 representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 1st day of September, 2020.
Stoller Law Office
Jonathan J. Stoller
Attorney for Representative
15 W Front St
El Paso, IL 61738
(309) 527-4300
jonathanstoller@stoller-law.com
No. 0903
(Sept. 9, 16, 23, 2020)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, OTTAWA, IL PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF)
THE ESTATE OF)
MALIK MALACHI)
BROWN,)
DECEASED.)
NO. 2020-P-000167

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Malik Malachi Brown, of Streator, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on September 1, 2020, to Ashley Travis, of Streator, IL, as INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR, whose Attorneys of record are SCHWEICKERT LAW GROUP, LLC, 2101 MARQUETTE ROAD, PERU, IL 61354.

Claims against the estate may be e-filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Downtown County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison Street, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the Representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. If the claim notice is personally mailed or delivered to a creditor

of the above estate, the claim must be filed in the above entitled cause within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, whichever is later. Any claims not filed within the above periods are barred. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoisccr.org/> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <https://www.illinoisccr.org.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, C. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Circuit Clerk. Dated: September 8, 2020

Greg Vaccaro
LaSalle County Circuit Clerk
Ottawa, IL 61350
No. 0904
(Sept. 16, 23, 30, 2020)

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

IN THE MATTER OF)
THE ESTATE OF)
BETTY M.)
FITZGERALD,)
Deceased.)
No. 2020 P 177

PUBLICATION FOR CLAIMS AND PUBLICATION FOR UNKNOWN HEIRS, AND HEIRS AND LEGATEES WHOSE NAMES OR ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN CLAIM NOTICE AND NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES

Estate of BETTY M. FITZGERALD, Deceased.
Notice is given of the death of BETTY M. FITZGERALD of Mendota, IL. Letters of office were issued on SEPTEMBER 15, 2020, to MARK R. FITZGERALD, 115 16th St. Mendota IL 61342 whose attorney is DAVID M. KALEEL, 806 Jefferson St., Mendota, IL 61342.

Notice is given to CHRISTINE FITZGERALD, heirs or legatees who are named in a petition, filed in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose names or addresses are not stated in the petition that an order was entered by the court on SEP-TEMBER 15, 2020 admitting the will to probate. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witnesses to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (Ill. Rev. Stats.,

ch. 110 ½, Sec 6-21). You may also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act. (Ill. Rev. Stats., Ch.110 ½, Sec. 8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after admission of the will to probate. Claims against the estate may be filed with the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Downtown Courthouse, Ottawa, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of issuance of letters and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative, and to the attorney with 10 days after it has been filed.

No. 0912
(Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 2020)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, OTTAWA, IL PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF)
THE ESTATE OF)
KATHLEEN G.)
MARTIN,)
DECEASED.)
NO. 2020-P-181

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors of the death of Kathleen G. Martin, of Peru, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on September 18, 2020, to Mary T. Martin, of Peru, IL, INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR, whose Attorneys of record are SCHWEICKERT LAW GROUP, LLC, 2101 MARQUETTE ROAD, PERU, IL 61354.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison Street, Ottawa, IL 61350, or with the Representative, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this Notice. If the claim notice is personally mailed or delivered to a creditor of the above estate, the claim must be filed in the above entitled cause within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, whichever is later. Any claims not filed within the above periods are barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 758, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Circuit Clerk. Dated: September 18, 2020

Greg Vaccaro
LaSalle County Circuit Clerk
Ottawa, IL 61350
No. 0913
(Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 2020)

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

CDL DRIVER and Farm Help Wanted For Fall Harvest. 10 Miles South of Rochelle. 815-716-6681. (10-11-20)

LOCAL COMPANY Looking for DRIVERS, Local, Regional & OTR Call 815-973-9366 for Information. (10-04-20)

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305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALES

OREGON: 2765 W Pines Road. Huge Barn Sale. ANTIQUES, ANTIQUES... Thursday September 24th Friday September 25th and Saturday September 26th, 9am-5pm Each Day!! Cupboards, Tables, Ton of Chairs, Desks, Dressers, Beds and So Much More!!! Priced to Sell. Dick & Janaan Harms, Owners. (09-23-20)

HILLCREST: 313 Erickson Rd. Thursday September 24th Friday September 25th, 9am-4pm & Saturday September 26th 9am-2pm. Variety of Items. (09-23-20)

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 4-Drawer Dresser \$60, 2-Drawer Nightstand \$25, Glass Top End Tables \$25, End Table \$15, & 2-Basin Wash Tubs \$50. Call 815-677-5093. (09-20-20)

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315 WANTED TO BUY

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

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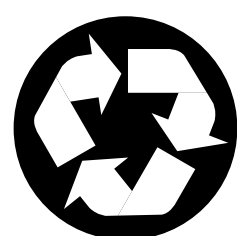
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Duties include daily cleaning of classrooms and other areas. This position is for 2nd shift. Send resume, letter of interest and references by Sept. 25, 2020 to: Andy Knowlton, 2300 W. Main St., Mendota, IL 61342 or email aknowlton@mendotahs.org. 09142020

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2018 Chevy Equinox LT AWD 20K Miles, Pepperdust..\$22,900	2016 GMC Acadia SLT1 AWD, DVD, Sunroof, Nav, Black..\$22,900
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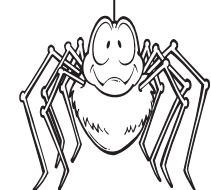
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NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.



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REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE FEATURE HOME



MLS #10852096, 521 S. 4th St., Earlville \$139,900.

You won't find an "as is" estate like this. Close to Earlville Schools. Clean as a whistle move in condition. 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath with a shower downstairs. Very nice and bright home. Will pass any financing. Nice 2 car garage large yard and nice landscaping. Call.

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Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101



240 W Pleasant Street AMBOY \$29,900 HANDYMAN NEEDED!!
This 3 BDR, 1 BA, good sized rooms, sturdy house, Needs TLC!!



4121 E 2nd Rd MENDOTA \$159,000 Looking for a ranch style home in the country? This property has great sunset views from the HUGE backyard and the many updates include: baths, replacement windows, roof, furnace, hot water heater, and 6 panel wood doors!! This is a comfortable home ready for YOU!



1206 Burlington Street MENDOTA \$136,000
This 4 BDR, 2BA Victorian home is just waiting to be your HOME!! Roof 2010, hot water heater and replacement windows 2018, remodeled baths 2013. Plus all the beauty of a Victorian with front and back staircases!! plenty of space to polish this gem to fit your life. Call Gloria or Sally for a peek!



1309 Guiles MENDOTA \$67,900
Affordable AND close to school!! 3-4 BDR, 1 BA, main floor laundry, newer front porch big enough for a dining table!! Shed, deck, and fenced backyard! Give us a call-



4198 E 42nd Rd MENDOTA \$289,900 Looking for a home in the country? NEW ROOF COMING SOON!!! This beautiful, custom built, 4BDR, 2.5 BA, home is just the one!! Gorgeous views from every window, spacious entertaining areas, easy access to the back yard and pool area. You can't build for this price with all this home has to offer!! Take a look and make this home YOURS!!

AFFORDABLE HOUSING! 3 BDR, 2 BATH. LAMOILLE... REDUCED	\$34,500
PRICED TO SELL! 2 BDR MAINTENANCE FREE ONE-STORY..... SOLD	\$55,000
VINYL SIDED 2 BDR ON LG LOT, 2-CAR GARAGE..... PENDING	\$65,000
VINYL SIDED STORY AND HALF W/3 BDRS & 2 BATHS..... REDUCED	\$68,000
3 BDR 2-STORY W/LOTS OF UPDATES..... PENDING	\$84,900
3 BDR, 1.5 BATHS, MAIN FLOOR UTILITY ROOM, 2 CAR GARAGE.. NEW	\$89,900
2-UNIT OR CONVERT BACK TO ROOM SINGLE FAMILY.....	\$93,000
BRICK 3 BDR WITH LOTS OF CHARM AND UPDATES..... SOLD	\$95,000
NATURAL WOODWORK, HWD FLOORS, OPEN STAIRCASE.. NEW	\$104,900
A MUST SEE!! 3 BDR. 1/2 STORY FULL OF CHARM..... REDUCED	\$131,900
2800 SQ. FT. TRI-LEVEL NORTHBROOK SUBD..... PENDING	\$139,900
BRICK 3 BDR RANCH LAKE AREA IN LG CORNER LOT.. SOLD	\$159,900
BRICK CAPE COD, 3 BDRS, 2.5 BATHS, 2 CAR GARAGE.....	\$189,900

LOTS/FARM LAND

5 ACRE BUILDING LOT, NORTHEAST OF MENDOTA.....	CALL!!
PRIME BUILDING LOT ON CHAR LU DR. MENDOTA.....	CALL!!
48.3 ACRE FARM LOCATED NEAR I-39.....	CALL!!

INCOME/COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

PRESENTLY ICE CREAM SHOP, LOTS OF UPDATES.....	CALL!!
UPDATED STORY FRONT W/3 BDR APT UPSTAIRS.....	\$75,800
REDUCED!! COMMERCIAL BUILDING.....	REDUCED!!
WAREHOUSE 3750 SQ.FT. OFFICE 1250 SQ. FT. STORAGE AREA 1250 SQ. FT.....	CALL!!
GREAT INVESTMENT PROPERTY 5 UNIT APARTMENT BUILDING.. NEW	CALL!!



Rebecca McPheeters,
Designated Managing Broker.



Town & Country Realty

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Evening Phone Numbers

Becky McPheeters, Designated
Managing Broker 708-220-3338

Rita Lilija 815-539-9255

Jami Bauer 815-993-7751

Lori Munson 815-228-4852

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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



1107 5th St., Mendota, IL #10528563 \$120,000.00 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. Call for all the amenities



MLS# 10565940 102 Hubbard Court, LaMoille \$39,000.00
Needs some TLC 2 bedroom 1 bath first floor laundry, newer 2 car garage. nice lot in LaMoille. Call for a showing



MLS#10813436 \$99,500 905 6th St. Mendota, A very nice home that is move in ready. Many updates have been done. It has lots of charm and would make a great forever home. 3 bedrooms 2 bath. Call for all the amenities.

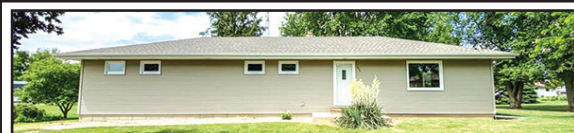


1206 4th St., Mendota \$119,000.00. 2 bedroom brick ranch with bonus room for office or den. Full basement with divide rooms for office or workshop. 1 car attached garage. Alley access. Call for a showing.

Call us for all your real estate needs. We can help you with buying, selling, free market analysis, just a friendly chat to answer your questions. We can help you. Call us.



1506 Lincoln Ave., Mendota \$127,500
• 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!



606 W Main St., Sublette \$134,000
• 2 Bed 1 Bath • New flooring, windows, doors, trim • Kitchen cabinets professionally refinished, new counter tops



164 W Penkins Rd., Sublette \$184,500
• Country Living With Small Pond • 4 Bed, 3 Bath Ranch Style • Inlaw Quarters



8 E Oak St., Amboy \$119,900
• 3 bed, 1 bath Warm and Welcoming Ranch Home • Heated 2 car garage • Cozy stone fireplace, spacious backyard with patio

314 N Jefferson Ave., Amboy CONTINGENT	\$180,000
139 W Pleasant St., Amboy CONTINGENT	\$133,500
1415 Meriden St., Mendota PENDING	\$92,000

25 W MILTON ST., AMBOY.....	\$29,000
707 MISSISSIPPI DR, DIXON.....	\$4,900

LOTS FOR SALE

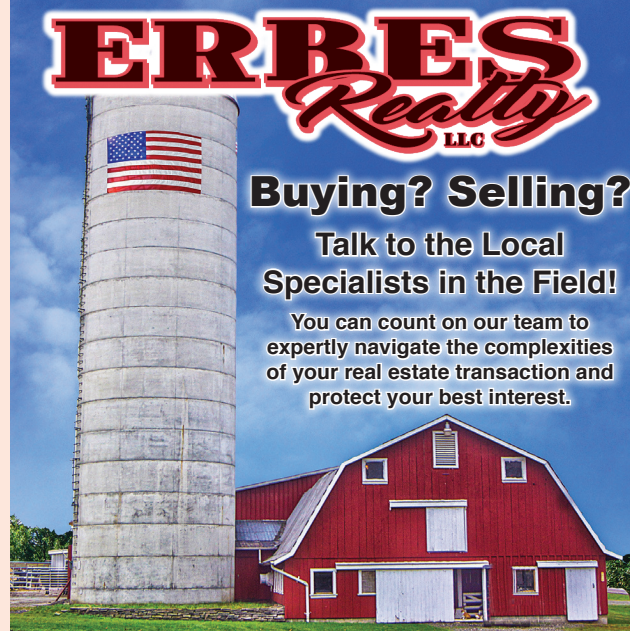
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