

Planning begins for re-opening of Mendota elementary schools

By **BONNIE MORRIS**
Editor

MENDOTA – The State of Illinois has released basic requirements for the opening of schools in August, but a myriad of details surrounding how the new school year will be handled has been left to each individual district. Those decisions will not be easy.

Reporting at the June 25 Mendota Elementary District 289 Board of Education meeting, via Zoom and in-person, Superintendent Dr. Kristen School said the district has been working to prepare for the opening of school. They have also formed a Transition Committee, which includes teacher representatives from each grade level, administrators and parents. The Transition Committee will meet on July 6 to begin preparing the transition plan. Any recommendations made by the

committee will have to be approved by the board and School said this information will be communicated with parents and the community.

At this time, the state’s main requirements for returning to face-to-face learning (Phase 4) include:

- Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings;
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space (includes cafeteria, PE classes);
- Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible;
- Conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings;
- Increase schoolwide cleaning and disinfection.

School noted that the ISBE (Illinois State Board of

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–Superintendent Kristen School

Education) wants everyone to have in-person learning. “We all know it is important to have students in the classroom with teachers,” she said. “It’s different to start remote learning in March when teachers and students know each other and have been together all that time than it would be at the start of a new school year with a new teacher.”

The district has received feedback from parents and teachers regarding the re-opening of school. While there is some flexibility in making decisions locally, School emphasized that all districts have to follow the

rules from ISBE and IDPH (listed above).

Money received by school districts from the CARES Act was intended to help implement those rules. In District 289, School said this will include more support for remote learning with some type of hybrid instruction a possibility, part time in class and part time remote learning. “Much of our curriculum is already online but we need more training,” she said.

The district has also ordered masks, visors and hand sanitizer, and is looking to lease a temperature scanner. They are also considering a HaloMist machine that

would disinfect classrooms without having to wipe everything down and could be moved from room to room.

“We want to be as safe as possible,” School said. “We have been working diligently on this since March and we have looked at everything possible. We’re trying to keep everybody safe and do what will work best for our community.”

School reminded everyone that each family situation is different. The district will have to consider the needs of special education students and of all students during different times of year. “At the start of the year, we need

a more ‘hands on’ type of learning,” she said. “There are so many things to juggle. We had to hit the ground running in March and there were struggles.”

With limits on the number of students that can be in the building at the same time, the district now has to figure out a way to balance face-to-face learning with remote learning to create some type of a hybrid. They also have to consider the changes that will mean for transportation.

“We are looking at every aspect of this, but we are not saying this to alarm you,” School emphasized. “We have not set anything in place yet. This is a huge task but we are going to do it.”

In closing, School had one important message for parents. “We need your support!” she said. “There

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Illinois has released new guidelines for schools, colleges and universities to return to in-person learning in the fall, and every district must develop its own plan based on those guidelines.

New guidelines released for return to in-person education

By **JERRY NOWICKI**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois released new guidelines for schools, colleges and universities to return to in-person learning in the fall, but leaders warned those plans could change if health metrics related to the COVID-19 pandemic stop improving.

“This fall will not be business as usual, and we will update our guidance as needed,” State Superintendent of Education Carmen Ayala said during a news conference Tuesday in Chicago. “In response to challenging and changing public health conditions, schools and districts must be prepared to return to remote learning if the virus surges again.”

Students and teachers will be required to wear face coverings if they are medically able, gatherings in one place will be limited to no more than 50 people and schools must adhere to stricter cleaning and disinfecting guidelines as well as conduct regular symptom checks.

Gov. JB Pritzker said at the news conference every district must develop its own plan based on those guidelines. Ayala added districts and individual schools will soon send additional information to parents and students.

Pritzker said the Illinois Emergency Management Agency will provide public K-12 districts in Illinois with 2.5 million cloth face masks, allowing schools to provide one to all students and staff.

Universities and community colleges will have similar guidelines for a fall reopening, including social distancing and physical spacing requirements, hand sanitizing stations, face covering requirements and symptom monitoring. Schools are also developing policies around traffic flow, cleaning of public spaces and staggered schedules for the use of laboratories, auditoriums and other group facilities, according to guidelines.

At this time, the governor’s office said, colleges expect dormitories, caf-

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Application period is now open for business recovery grants in state

□ \$85 million available for small businesses

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The administration is releasing \$85 million through the Business Interruption Grant program and the Rebuild Distressed Communities grant program. The money is part of \$900 million that Gov. JB Pritzker recently announced will be released in response to economic impacts of the pandemic.

Both programs are aimed at small businesses whose operations were either restricted or completely shut down during the pandemic. They are also targeted at businesses located in “disproportionately impacted areas” — low income communities that have experienced high rates of COVID-19 cases and communities damaged during recent civil unrest.

According to a release from DCEO, the first round of Business Interruption Grants, or BIG, will make \$60 million in federal COVID-19 relief funds available for 3,500 businesses such as bars, restaurants, barber-shops and salons, health

and fitness centers as well as businesses in areas where there have been reports of property damage from civil unrest. The money comes from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, or CARES, Act.

The grants will range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 and will be available to businesses that have suffered significant losses due to restricted operations, mandatory closures or property damage. To qualify, those businesses must have been in operation for at least three months before March 2020.

Businesses can begin applying for the grants starting Friday, June 26. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, July 7. Potential applicants can download an application and review the complete criteria for the program on the DCEO website.

The agency said it plans to use community-based financial institutions to review applications and administer the funds. That financial assistance is expected to be released starting in mid-July. Eligible businesses will be selected on a lottery basis.

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LOCAL AND AREA



Farmers Market open in Mendota

Mike Thier, left, chats with the proprietors of Four Sisters Fresh Produce of Granville during the Mendota Farmers Market on June 27. The market is open Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon on Main Street in downtown Mendota next to the Amtrak station. (Reporter photo)

Service and therapy dog training school taking applications

MENDOTA — Leashes for Living Assistance Dog School has opened in Mendota and is currently accepting applications for students.

The school teaches veterans and persons with disabilities to train their own service dog through positive training techniques. It also provides therapy dog classes for those who want to make a difference in their community by warming hearts and putting smiles on faces.

A service dog is not a pet. They are necessary medical equipment that enhance a person's ability to live life to its fullest, which is why the school takes its training seriously.

Leashes for Living is a unique program that uses positive techniques where the student/handler learns how to communicate with and train their canine partner. By teaching their dog special

skills and manners, the student is capable of achieving an enhanced lifestyle.

The learned skills and tasks are based on the individual's needs, thereby giving them greater independence not only in their home, but also in the community. Skills learned are limited only to the imagination, and may include: open/close doors, turn lights on/off, pick up/retrieve items, brace and balance, diabetic alert, seizure alert, hearing alert, PTSD and so much more.

The school works together with each team to develop great service and therapy dog skills.

Leashes for Living Assistance Dog School has been training service and therapy dogs since 2007. It offers A.K.C. S.T.A.R. Puppy, A.K.C. Canine Good Citizen, seven levels of obedience, public access test and appro-



propriate special skills.

For more information or an application, call (815) 293-7415 or (623) 687-1706. Information is also available on Facebook or at leashesfor-

IVAC program to address 'Sexual Harassment in the Workplace'

PERU - The Illinois Valley Area Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development (IVAC) will hold a virtual Business Breakfast Seminar to discuss "Sexual Harassment in the Workplace: What you need to know about the new laws." The meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, July 8 beginning at 9 a.m.

After almost two years of work by the Senate Task Force on Sexual Harassment, on Jan. 1 Governor Pritzker signed sweeping legislation for employers regarding sexual harassment in the workplace. The legislation requires a variety of changes for

employers including mandatory anti-harassment training, reporting requirements for final verdicts and decisions, and substantial revisions to employment policies and employment and severance agreements. The webinar will review these changes.

Guest speaker will be Julie Proscia, an equity partner at SmithAmundsen, who has advocated for employers for over 15 years.

Register for this program at <https://ivac.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/12973>. For instructions about joining the Zoom meeting or other information, visit



J. Proscia

the IVAC website ivaccd.org or phone Penny Wamhoff at (815) 223-0227.

The meeting is open to the public.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Lewis University dean's list

ROMEOVILLE—Monica Joerger of LaMoille was named to the Lewis University dean's list for the 2020 spring semester.

Joerger, who is majoring in Information Systems, is among nearly 1,700 students honored on the spring dean's list.

To be eligible, students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours during the semester with a grade point average of at least 3.5 and with no "D" or "F" grades.

Lewis University is a forward-thinking Catholic university offering market-relevant undergraduate and graduate programs to 6,300 students. Sponsored by the De LaSalle Christian Brothers, Lewis is nationally recognized for preparing ethically grounded, global-

ly connected and socially responsible graduates. Visit www.lewisu.edu for further information.

Bradley graduation

PEORIA — Two Mendota residents, Cameron Schumacher and Evan Weber, were among more than 900 Bradley University students who received their academic degrees in May. Schumacher earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Weber received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting.

Bradley is a top-ranked university offering 5,400 students the resources of a larger university and personal attention of a smaller one. Over 185 academic programs are offered in business, communications, education, engineering, fine arts, health sciences, liberal arts and sciences, and technology.

ENGLERT LeafGuard®

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LOCAL AND AREA

Customers encouraged to sign up to receive license plate sticker renewal notices by e-mail

SPRINGFIELD - Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White encourages residents to visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com to sign up to receive



license plate sticker renewal notices by e-mail. This service provides customers access to renew their sticker online. As a result of e-mail reminder notices, the office experienced a 103 percent increase in online license plate sticker renewals from June 1-21, with 338,602 customers renewing online over the three-week period. This service allows customers to renew online instead of waiting in line at driver

services facilities.

"Customers who receive the e-mail reminder notice can renew online 24/7 at www.cyberdriveillinois.com and avoid waiting in line at driver service facilities," White said. "On June 16, 38,735 license plate stickers were renewed online – a record high for renewals in one day, surpassing the previous high by 10,000. This was after a mass renewal reminder notification was sent to customers who had signed up for the service."

To register, drivers need their vehicle registration card or past renewal notice containing their Registration ID and PIN numbers. If vehicle owners do not have a renewal notice or a current registra-

tion card, they should call the Public Inquiry Division at 800-252-8980. After obtaining their Registration ID and PIN numbers, they can visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com and go to the "License Plate Renewal Email Notices" under Online Services.

A series of three reminder e-mails are sent to motorists - three months before expiration, then one month before expiration and the third e-mail is sent the day of expiration. When the sticker is renewed, the reminder e-mails stop until the following year when it is time to renew again.

Currently, more than 2.8 million motorists have signed up to receive reminder notices by e-mail.

State Farm cuts Illinois auto rates 13.7 percent

BLOOMINGTON – Driving behaviors across the country continue to evolve during the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on current trends, State Farm is working to reduce auto insurance rates in Illinois by 13.7 percent. This rate reduction will save 2.8 million State Farm customers a total of \$320 million. This applies to current customers at policy renewal, as well as new and returning customers.

"Current State Farm driving data and claims experience show a considerable decline in miles driven and fewer accidents," said State Farm Senior Vice President Rob

Stewart. "As a result, we're looking for ways to continue supporting our Illinois customers while we monitor and adjust to trends."

In addition to this auto rate reduction, the discount for participating in Drive Safe & Save is increasing to 10 percent and empowers drivers to save more on their auto premiums through driving behaviors.

Customer rate reductions will vary based on individual renewals. Customers are encouraged to visit with their State Farm agent about individual policies, coverage, and opportunities for discounts.



OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois Nephrology ranked among the best

PEORIA - U.S. News & World Report has ranked OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois - in the new 2020-2021 Best Children's Hospitals rankings. OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois Nephrology, led by Dr. Vimal Raj, was ranked one of the top 50 U.S. pediatric facilities.

"OSF Children's Hospital has a long-standing commitment to excellent care for children. We continuously improve those critical pediatric services and it is rewarding to have this significant recognition of our efforts," said Michael Wells, President, OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois. "We are proud of our dedicated faculty and clinical staff, who play a major role in achieving the good outcomes we are being recognized for. Their compassion and devotion to our patients led to this honor."

Introduced in 2007, the Best Children's Hospitals rankings highlight U.S. News' top 50 U.S. pediatric facilities in cancer, cardiology & heart surgery, diabetes & endocrinology, gastroenterology & GI surgery, neonatology, nephrology, neurology & neurosurgery, orthopedics, pulmonology and urology. Eighty-six ranked in at least one specialty.

The U.S. News Best Children's Hospitals rankings rely on clinical data and on an annual survey of pediatric specialists. More information can be found online in the Best Children's Hospitals rankings and will be published in the U.S. News "Best Hospitals 2020" guidebook.

Social Security unveils newly redesigned online benefits portal

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Social Security Administration announced the first of several steps the agency is taking to improve the public's experience on its website. The newly redesigned retirement benefits portal at www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/retirement, will help millions of people prepare for and apply for retirement.

"We are working hard to continue improving our website to provide people with clear, helpful information and easy access to our online services," said Andrew Saul, Commissioner of Social Security. "Our new retirement portal is more user-friendly and easier to navigate, whether someone is ready to learn about, apply for, or manage their retirement benefits."

The new portal makes it easier for people to find and read about Social Security retirement benefits, with fewer pages and condensed, rewritten, and clearer information. The portal also is optimized for mobile devices so people can learn and do what they want from wherever they want, and the portal now includes the ability to subscribe to receive retirement information and updates.

Click on www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/retirement to find out how to Learn, Apply, and Manage retirement benefits, and learn how to create a personal my Social Security account online.

More improvements to Social Security's website are planned for later in 2020 as the agency seeks to continuously improve the public experience at www.socialsecurity.gov.

CARL'S QUIZ

How many games are played in a regular major league baseball season?

The answer to last week's quiz is: The loudest animal on earth is the blue whale, which can reach up to 188 decibels. As a comparison, a rock concert reaches around 115 decibels.

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

OSF Healthcare healing wounds closer to home

MENDOTA – In the United States, chronic wounds affect 6.5 million people and that number is likely to increase as patients live longer with more chronic medical conditions, according to the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

When wound care patients need intensive treatment, the usual response is to transport them to the nearest hospital or specialty clinic. But in rural areas of the country, a simple trip to the hospital may not be that simple, especially for elderly patients. Traveling long distances, access to transportation, and relying on family members and friends for help all play a role in getting the best possible care.

"We were referring a lot of our patients off to different towns in surrounding communities for wound care, and when you're in a rural

setting, just driving down the road 30 miles can be burden," said Stacy Piller, advanced practice registered nurse, OSF HealthCare. "We don't have the transportation services that people in more urban areas have. So we wanted to bring that care closer to home."

To help patients heal and stay close to home for their care, OSF HealthCare has recently opened wound care clinics in Mendota, Ottawa and Streator.

"The staff are wonderful and listened to what I had to say to the point where I felt I had a say so in my treatment and care," explained Tamra Gonzalez, a patient of OSF Wound Care. After having her wound healed, Tamra was referred to OSF Home Health.

See OSF, Page A4

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OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

Anna M. Bonnell Willavize

SUBLETTE - Anna Mae Bonnell Willavize, 91, formerly of Sublette, joined hands with the Lord on June 23, 2020 at Windsor Estates in Camdenton, Mo. surrounded by her loving family.

Visitation was held from 10 a.m. to noon on June 27 at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Funeral service followed with Pastor Judy Williams of Creston officiating. Burial was at the Evergreen Cemetery, Sublette.

Anna was born March 25, 1929 in Centerville, Iowa to Elmer and Minnie (Raney) Jump. She married Marvin Bonnell on Aug. 3, 1946 in Batavia. He preceded her death on May 12, 1974. She later married Leo Willavize on Sept. 22, 1984 in Amboy. He preceded her death May 8, 1996.

Survivors include three daughters, Judy (Butch) Griswold of Camdenton, Mo., JoAnne Heinzeroth of Mendota and Barbara (Louis) Bontz of LaSalle; one son, Gary (Patrice) Bonnell of Camdenton, Mo.; 16 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; 17 great-great-grandchildren; one brother, Richard (Nellie) Jump of Jacksonville, Fla.; and one sister, Myrtle Medernach of DeKalb.

She was preceded in death by her husbands; one son, James M. Bonnell; two brothers, David and Robert Jump; and one sister, Betty Jean Jump.

Anna worked at Hart-Carter in Mendota for 19 years prior to her retirement in 1985. She was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Amboy and the Green River Saddle Club.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family and distributed to Anna's favorite charities. Condolences may be sent online at www.thejonesfh.com.



Frank "Dale" Epps

MENDOTA - Frank "Dale" Epps, 92, formerly of Mendota died June 25, 2020 at Methodist Charlton Medical Center in Dallas, Texas after a brief illness.

Cremation rights have been accorded. Interment will be in the family cemetery in southern Illinois at a later date.

Dale was born Feb. 9, 1928 in Collinsville. He married Louise Meyers on Sept. 26, 1952 in Collinsville.

Survivors include his wife of 68 years; three daughters, Pam (Mike) Rumsey, Bendy (Louie) Schuler, and Connie Skilling; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one daughter, Tena Davis in 2003.

Dale served in the Naval Reserves from 1948 to 1957. He and Louise moved to Mendota in 1955 where he worked at Farm Supply. Later, he was self-employed as an electrician and worked at both Sundstrand and the Peru Mall before retiring in 1990. He was a volunteer for many years with the Mendota Fire Department and Civil Defense.

Memorials in Dale's name may be made to the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry.

Piper Marie Cahill

MENDOTA - Piper Marie Cahill, infant daughter of Ellen Stieneke of Mendota and Chad Cahill of Omaha, Neb. passed away June 18, 2020 at Illinois Valley Community Hospital, Peru.

Private graveside services were held on June 24 at Lutheran Cemetery, Mendota with Rev. Steve Mindrup officiating. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota assisted the family.

Piper is survived by her mother and father, uncles, grandparents and many family friends.

Kishwaukee College announces plan for fall 2020 classes

MALTA - Kishwaukee College will be open for classes for the fall 2020 semester. As the State of Illinois begins to re-open, Kishwaukee plans to bring some students, faculty and staff back to campus. The current plan is to offer the majority of classes online, with some lab, career and technical education courses on campus following CDC and state guidelines.

There are three types of courses:

Online/Online. These courses will be offered in a traditional online format. Students complete coursework at any time of day that works best for them.

Online/synchronous. These courses are online at a particular time, with scheduled virtual class meetings that students will attend via computer, providing live interaction between instructor and students. "Online/synchro-

nous" class sessions will meet during the times listed on course schedule for those sessions.

Hybrid. These courses will combine online lecture with limited on-campus meetings in labs, shops and studio art. These on-campus meetings will occur during the times listed on course schedule.

Kish is committed to providing quality, affordable education to students in a safe environment. "We are looking forward to welcoming students back to campus in the fall with new safety guidelines and reduced capacity on campus and in the classroom," said Kish College president, Dr. Laurie Borowicz. "With the current plan, the college will be prepared to make quick adjustments to the course schedule and college operations should there be further disruptions if a

surge in COVID-19 should happen."

With all courses having an online component, the college is committed to providing the necessary tools and resources needed for student success in the online environment. Having access to the required technology is key. The college has Chromebooks and laptops available for check out for students who do not have access to a computer. In addition, the campus will be open during set hours for students needing access to the internet.

Kish is a great local option, whether students are getting started on a college degree or wanting to prepare for a new career. The fall semester begins Aug. 17. Students can enroll now online or set up an appointment with an academic advisor or counselor. For more information, visit www.kish.edu/fall.

Illinois launches Driver's License/ID Card pre-registration application

SPRINGFIELD - Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White's office has launched an online driver's license and ID card pre-registration application program to reduce the processing time of transactions at Driver Services facilities. This proactive approach will save customers time during their facility visit.

Customers may go to www.cyberdriveillinois.com to access the pre-registration application for driver's licenses and ID cards and input specific information regarding their upcoming transaction. As a result, once the customer visits a Driver Services facility, the clerk will not have to enter all of the data like a change of address or a change of height and weight into the electronic application form because the customer has already updated the information. This will improve the efficiency of these transactions.

"This is a forward-thinking program using technology to reduce wait times at the counter and speed up transactions at Driver Services facilities," said White. "The program is easy to use and

can be accessed on a computer, iPad or smartphone."

With pre-registration, customers will be prompted to:

- Choose a license type (REAL ID or standard driver's license/ID card);
- Choose an application type (renewal or corrected);
- Input designations (organ donor or veteran);
- Choose any corrections to be made to the information on file (examples: address, date of birth, eye color, gender, hair color, height, name, Social Security number or weight);
- Choose the type of required documentation and enter data from those documents (i.e., certified birth certificate for a REAL ID);
- Print receipt with barcode, which should be

brought to the facility.

Customers using the pre-registration application must still bring all of the required paperwork to the Driver Services facility for verification. In addition, they are encouraged to bring the printed pre-registration receipt to the facility for the clerk to scan the barcode. However, if the customer does not bring in the receipt, the clerk can enter the customer's driver's license/ID card number to access the pre-registration application information.

To qualify for the pre-registration application process, a customer must have an Illinois driver's license/ID card that is not suspended, canceled or revoked and has not been expired for more than one year.

Nicor offers extra assistance for customers impacted by COVID-19

NAPERVILLE - As the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19 continue to evolve, Nicor Gas is committed to supporting customers by expanding financial assistance to those who have been impacted by the pandemic. More flexible payment options and additional direct bill payment assistance is in addition to the voluntary suspension of service disconnections for nonpayment Nicor Gas implemented March 18 for customers impacted by COVID-19.

Nicor Gas will also waive reconnection fees and restore service for residential customers who were disconnected due to nonpayment up to one year prior to June 18 upon request by the customer. The additional support measures are available for customers who are struggling to pay their energy bills as part of a joint agreement with the Illinois Commerce Commission staff and other key stakeholders.

"While we have been working to keep our communities safe to ensure reliable natural gas service, we understand these are trying times for many of our customers," said Melvin D. Williams, president of Nicor Gas. "We will continue to seek ways to help customers who are facing financial hardship as the pandemic continues to impact Illinoisans."

Nicor Gas encourages residential customers who were disconnected for non-payment up to one year prior to June 18 to call 888-Nicor4U (642-6748) to discuss reconnection options and fee waivers.

Nicor Gas also is now offering other energy assistance options, including:

• A special bill payment assistance program from Nicor Gas provides one-time grants of up to \$300 toward past due balances to income-eligible residential customers impacted by COVID-19.

• Nicor is offering residential customers the opportunity to pay off past due account balances in 24

monthly installments, without a down payment requirement. Residential customers who currently have an active payment arrangement may renegotiate their terms to 24 monthly installments; terms may be renegotiated if a customer's financial situation changes or if they default after enrollment.

• Nicor also is offering commercial and industrial sales service customers an opportunity to enroll in more flexible payment arrangements for a limited period. These options are in addition to the programs that Nicor Gas already has in place to help customers manage natural gas costs, including:

• The Nicor Gas Sharing Program provides one-time grants to qualified residential customers. The program is administered by the Salvation Army and funded through direct contributions from Nicor Gas employees and customers who can make donations via their monthly gas bill payment.

• The Nicor Gas Budget Plan provides a convenient way for customers to plan for and pay their monthly natural gas bill. Customers pay a more consistent amount by estimating natural gas usage and natural gas prices for the next year and adjusting quarterly to allow a credit balance to build up and help offset bills that may be higher during the winter heating season.

• Nicor Gas' Energy Efficiency Program helps customers manage their costs by lowering out-of-pocket expenses for energy efficiency improvements through rebates for energy efficient equipment, energy assessments and free energy-saving products. For more energy-saving tips, visit nicorgas.com/residential/ways-to-save.html.

For more information about these programs or help managing natural gas costs due to economic hardships from the ongoing pandemic, please call 888-Nicor4U (642-6748) or visit nicorgas.com/covid-19.html.

OSF

Continued from Page A3

in which nurses visited her home to ensure she had all of the resources she needed to maintain her health and wellness. Tamra added, "They did referrals for diabetic shoes and an air pressure machine to massage my legs. It was a domino effect of complete, wonderful care."

The team of wound care specialists, doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals use the latest, most advanced treatments. To-

gether, they work with each patient to determine the type, location, severity, and cause of the wound.

Each patient can expect an individual treatment plan for their wound care needs. The goal is for patients to have timely healing so they can get back on their feet.

Contact OSF Wound Care clinics in Mendota, 1401 E. 12th St., at (815) 539-1422, in Ottawa, 1050 E. Norris Dr., at (815) 431-5160 and 1100 E. Norris Dr. at (815) 431-5325.

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LOCAL AND AREA

School

Continued from Page A1

Ezike said the reopening being allowed this fall is the result of significant declines in new cases, deaths and hospitalizations since the peak of the pandemic in Illinois.

Those declines, she said, are the result of the vast majority of Illinoisans following basic safety guidelines that include frequent hand-washing, wearing face coverings when in public and practicing social distancing.

The fact that the state reports about 20,000 to 30,000 test results daily helps as well, she said. Nearly 1.4 million tests were completed in Illinois since the pandemic began.

Those yielded 601 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 — a 2.9 percent positivity rate. There were another 38 virus-related deaths over the previous 24 hours, bringing the statewide totals to 137,825 cases and 6,707 deaths. Ezike said the state has had five consecutive weeks of declining new cases and fatalities, and the statewide positivity rate from June 16-22 is 2 percent.

In advance of schools reopening, Ezike strongly encouraged parents and guardians to make sure their children are up-to-date on their vaccinations and that all Illinoisans get caught up on basic wellness procedures, including cancer screenings. She noted there have been steep declines in those procedures since the pandemic began.

“We need to make sure that the kids get checked out by their providers and get their life-saving immunizations,” she said. “Yes, there could be another surge of COVID-19 in the fall or perhaps earlier, but let’s make sure we take this opportunity now to get to our doctors, let’s get our immunizations, let’s get our health screenings, let’s get as healthy as we can. Your baseline health status affects how you fare against this virus.”

Pritzker also said the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security, or CARES, Act, provided \$510 million in relief directly to school districts to address local needs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Dr. Ayala and I are encouraging all districts to use this funding to close the digital divide by providing devices and internet connectivity and are directing the majority of the remaining funding to purchasing laptops, tablets, virtual coaching for new teachers and internet connectivity to advance a vision of equity for our schools and keep our kids on track for success,” the governor said.

Pritzker’s office said the Illinois State Board of Education will use another \$54.1 million in CARES act funding to provide funding to schools in six categories: laptops and tablets, internet connectivity, virtual coaching for teachers, professional development, and support for entities that cannot receive direct funds.

(Peter Hancock contributed to this report. 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.)

Incinerator hours

MENDOTA—Incinerator (burn pit) hours for the city of Mendota are as follows:

- Monday – 3 to 6 p.m.
- Tuesday – 9 a.m. to noon
- Thursday – 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Friday – 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Saturday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The incinerator is located south of Mendota near the sewage treatment plant.



IVCC ag program co-coordinators Kathryn Seebruck and Willard Mott recently assisted CNH agronomists with a research project. While the research plot was being prepared, Case IH representatives used a tractor to plant soybeans near IVCC’s new ag storage facility. (Photo contributed)

IVCC storage building nearing completion

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College’s 6,000-square-foot storage and routine maintenance building is on schedule for completion by the end of June, board members learned on June 11.

In his monthly report, IVCC President Jerry Corcoran said a grand opening for the facility is underway.

“That event will be an opportunity to showcase the facility and thank our many generous donors who helped make Phase I of our ag complex a reality, especially donor Barbara Davis of Batavia, State Rep. Lance Yednock (D-Ottawa) and State Sen. Sue Rezin (R-Morris).”

There’s also considerable activity on the farmland surrounding the new building.

Recently, ag program co-coordinators Willard Mott and Kathryn Lillie planted 86 acres of soybeans with equipment provided by the Case IH Innovation team of Burr Ridge and its local partners at Stoller International in Ottawa.

“Last weekend was a big week for the ag program,” Corcoran said. “We’re lucky to be able to work with our farm tenant Luke Holly on these field activities, as well as our friends from the Illinois Extension on research opportunities using Case IH prototype equipment.”

Following closed session, the board approved an “Information Technology Backup Solution” from Rehmann (RTS) for equipment, licensing, project management and three years support and maintenance.

“Our fiscal 2021 budget had included off-site data backups,” Corcoran noted. “Unfortunately, the need for it became more urgent.”

The \$165,111 project cost will be borne by a fund designated for IT, not the Education Fund.

Corcoran said all major IT functions have been restored and improvements scheduled for next year have already been completed such as moving staff email to Office 365, installation of Windows

10 on every computer and moving the website to a cloud-hosted environment.

In other action, trustees approved:

- A property tax assessment settlement with Exelon’s La Salle Station nuclear power plant near Seneca.
- In 2020 and 2021, Exelon’s tax distribution to IVCC will be slightly over \$1.6 million annually, the same as 2019.
- Midland States Bank will continue to provide IVCC’s banking services. IVCC seeks proposals every four years. Midland States, formerly Centurie, has provided the service since 2012.
- Renewal of student athletic insurance with 1st Agency for \$28,802 and student athletic catastrophic insurance with Zevitz Student Accident Insurance for \$2,990.
- Annual radio advertising contracts with Studstill Media of Peru for \$19,980, Starved Rock Media of Oglesby for \$15,600 and NRG Media of Ottawa for \$9,500.
- Authorization for the administration to continue operation of the college from July 1 through budget adoption.
- The \$642,429 bid of Commercial Mechanical of Dunlap for the Building G (gymnasium) air handler unit.
- Employment contracts with President Jerry Corcoran and Vice Presidents’ Cheryl Roelfsema, Deborah Anderson and Mark Grzybowski.
- Following closed session, the board approved fiscal year 2021 compensation for approximately 300 employees not affected by a labor agreement.

The board learned: Corcoran is optimistic about the summer session that began June 10. “It looks like we’ll end up with over 900 students and approximately 4,600 credit hours; not far from where we were one year ago. If we keep these students, we should be in good shape,” he said.

Thomas Nestler is the new Truck Driver Training coordinator. Nestler is a former award-winning driver with 44 years in the industry and over 2.8 million miles of safe, accident- and violation-free driving.

Matthew Phillips resigned effective July 23 from his part-time position in Admissions to accept a social studies teaching position at Woodland CUSD in Streator.

Enrollment services assistant Sarah Tipton will resign July 9 to pursue an advanced degree in college student affairs.

Marie Ortiz resigned May 11 after 10 years as a utility clerk.

Math tutor and instructor Marilyn Lange retired.

Longtime Spanish, Italian and French instructor Atti Padoan resigned.

Assistant men’s basketball coach Jon Murphy resigned and custodians Dennis and Kathy Arbuckle retired June 24.

Transitioning to Gov. JB Pritzker’s Recovery Phase of the Reopen Illinois Plan has gone well, Corcoran said.

Senior administration has discussed partnership opportunities with Oglesby Mayor Dominic Rivara. “We look forward to having the mayor visit with the board’s facilities committee later this summer so he can unveil what he has in mind. It will also be an opportunity to discuss possible PHS projects and RAMP document submissions,” Corcoran said.

Grants

Continued from Page A1

In addition to the BIG program, another \$25 million will be made available through the Rebuild Distressed Communities program to support businesses that have suffered damage from civil unrest that occurred on or after May 25.

Those grants, which are funded through the state’s Rebuild Illinois capital improvements program, will reimburse the costs to repairs that have already been performed for structural damage, including storefronts, entrances, electrical systems and exterior work. For work yet to be performed, program administrators will partner with local contractors and pay them to perform the work. Projects that were denied coverage by an insurance company are eligible, but applicants must submit documentation proving denial or lack of coverage.

The program will prioritize small businesses, those that are underinsured or uninsured, those that have a high community impact such as grocery stores and those located in communities that have experienced historic disinvestment. For repair work, the program will also prioritize contractors that are certified through the state’s Business Enterprise Program — those that are at least 51-percent owned or controlled by minorities, women or people with disabilities.

DCEO is currently seeking one or more administrators to process the reimbursement applications. The agency said it expects businesses will be able to start applying for support in August. Additional information about and how to apply is available by emailing the Office of Grants Management at CEO. OGMgrants@illinois.gov. *(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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are requirements that we have to have in place, such as wearing masks. As soon as we know more, we will let you know.”

OTHER BUSINESS

The board approved a one-year suspension of registration fees due to COVID-19. This includes fees for technology and extracurriculars (band, sports). All pre-paid registrations and lunches will be refunded. They also approved support staff handbook changes.

Dr. School shared an overview of the fiscal end-of-year, which showed a deficit of \$102,471. This was much less than anticipated due to the impact of COVID-19 and the switch to remote learning.

A presentation was given on the superintendent search, which included survey results for “ideal candidate” qualifications/requirements. Following the presentation, the board voted on final wording for three areas in which there was no strong majority opinion. The board’s decisions included: experience (required), reside in district (strongly preferred), and compensation (regionally competitive).

PERSONNEL

Following closed session, the board hired Jodi Peterson as director of student services with a three-year contract and beginning salary of \$82,500.

Other new hires include: Northbrook – Angela Nordorf, 7th grade reading; Missy Krull, bilingual Pre-K, sub; Shannon Baker, 5th grade paraprofessional; Taylor Schneider, bilingual Pre-K paraprofessional; Christy Galati, 8th grade, special education; Lincoln – Paige Hamill, special education teacher.

Resignations were accepted from Kristian Barajas, Northbrook, special education resource; Wilson Wright, Northbrook, 8th grade math; Selena Kwedder, Lincoln, interventionist; and Shannon Baker, district cafeteria.

A leave of absence was approved for Sara Schaefer, Northbrook, 7th grade, special education.

The next regular board meeting, if needed, will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 16 in the District 289 Education Center.



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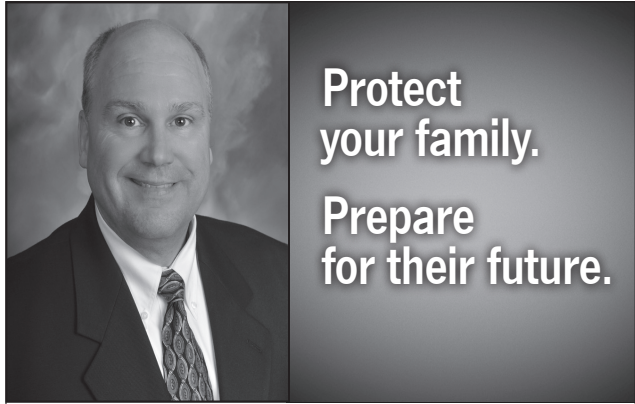


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OPINION



The Mendota Reporter

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

Blessed by vets & animals

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD – On Father’s Day, I found myself contemplating the veterinarians in my life.

You see, I’ve been blessed with two veterinarians – my father and my wife.

Growing up, I was always “Doc Reeder’s boy.” Together we would ride from farm to farm across Knox and Warren counties. I observed and helped with countless surgeries.

Sometimes it was as simple as, “Hold the flashlight, Scotty.”

Later, as a teenager, I was gripping the edges of a uterus incision as my father pulled a calf into the world during a Caesarean section.

I remember when I was in kindergarten, sitting cross legged in a barnyard answering my Dad’s questions.

“How many stomachs does a cow have, Scotty?”

“Four, Dad.”

“Well let’s take a look at them, Scotty.”

He then proceeded to perform a post mortem, explaining the purpose of each organ in language a 5-year-old could understand.

I remember falling off my bicycle in the second grade and walking home with an injured arm. My father took a look at it and said, “It’s either a fracture or a really bad sprain.”

His next step was to take me to the veterinary clinic for an x-ray.

I still remember him striding into Cottage Hospital’s emergency room with me by his side. He hollered, “He doesn’t need to go to radiology, I’ve got an x-ray film right here.”

Animal doctors seem more direct and practical than their human counterparts. Perhaps it’s not having to deal with lawsuits and hospital politics.

But it goes beyond that.

Animal doctors have such an intense love for creatures that their homes tend to become, well, menageries.

When I asked my wife for her hand in marriage, I made her promise: no animals would be added to our family – unless we both agreed.

She hasn’t exactly respected this wedding vow. OK, perhaps she has won my repeated acquiescence by continually wearing me down.

I suspect the only reason I asked for the promise was because of childhood memories.

When I was 8, my dad came home with a billy goat. Dad was vaccinating cattle at a sale barn and as a joke bid \$5 on a lonely goat that had no ears.

We ended up owning the beast that devoured newspapers, cigarette butts and just about anything else. The ruminant had no respect for fences or screen doors.

No sooner had the goat been put in the pasture than it jumped the fence, ran across our yard, peered through the screen door and baaed loudly. Apparently, it had once been a house goat.

My mother took to chasing Billy off the porch with a broom – until he ate the broom.

Having no respect for fences, the animal took to sunning itself on the front porch, which caused more than a few drivers to nearly swerve off the gravel road that ran by our house.

Given this history, you’d think I’d have gone into marriage to a vet with my eyes wide open. Dream on. My wife brought a cat into the marriage that hated all men. Within a week, the cat marked my suit and every freshly pressed white shirt of mine hanging in the closet.

But marital adventures in felines didn’t end there. A couple of years after we wed, my wife was more than eight months pregnant with our first daughter and she came home with a kitten that was born without eyes.

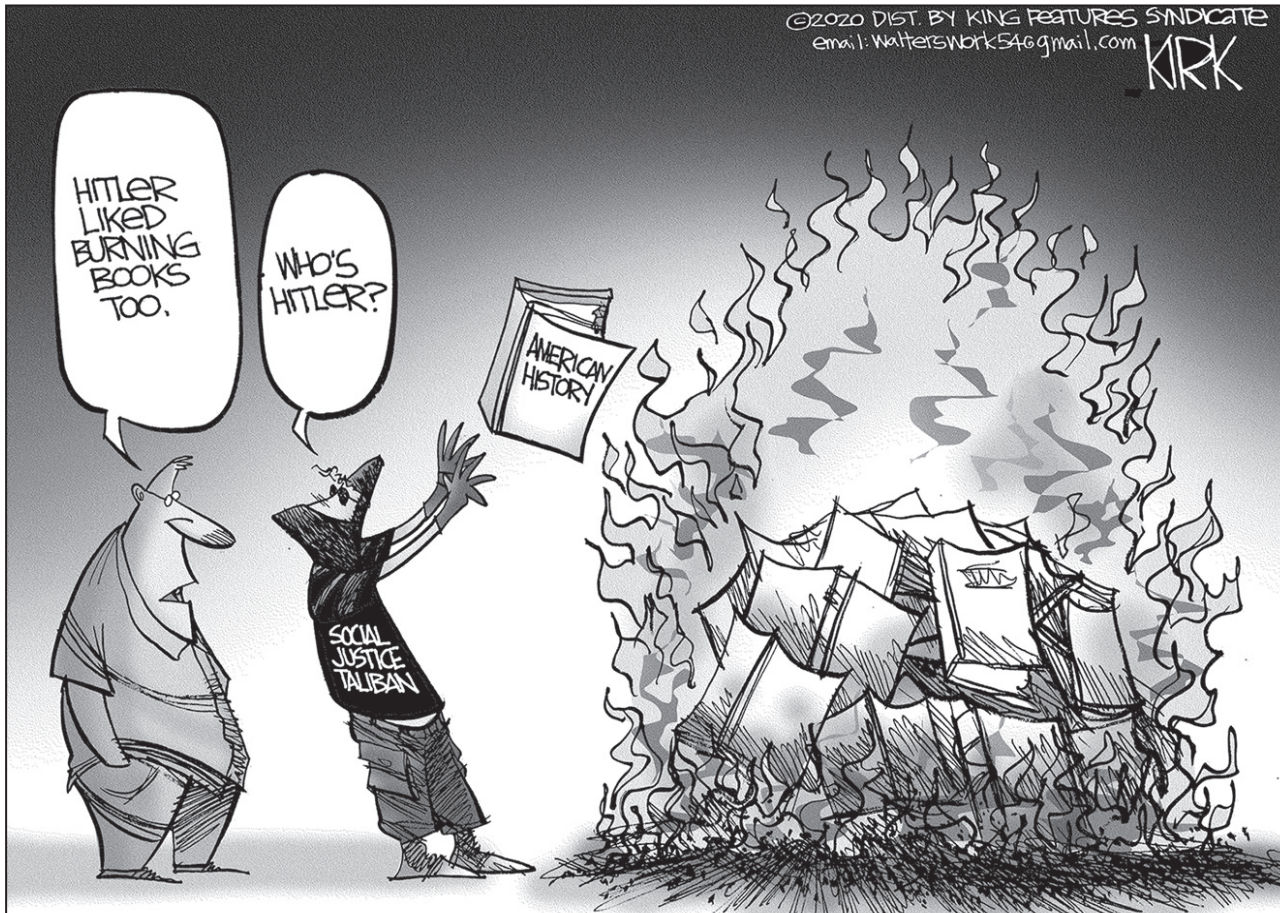
Between sobs, Joan said, “They wanted me to put it to sleep just because it was born this way. I couldn’t do it, Scott. What happens if our child is born without any eyes?” As my pregnant wife stroked the blind kitten she added, “It’s just a foster cat. It will stay with us just until we find someone who will give it a home permanently.”

The “foster cat” lived with us for another 13 years. It had the floor plan of the house memorized, avoided the kids’ toys on the floor with an eerie sixth sense and lounged on the window sill like a prince on a throne.

The current census in our home is: eight dogs, five guinea pigs, four birds, three sugar gliders (flying squirrels) one hamster, one ferret and one very overwhelmed cat.

Dad has been gone now almost five years. But I think about him every day when I scratch a dog behind the ear, give the cat a tummy rub – or go to the hospital for an x-ray.

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



Mendota Centennial publicity – 1953

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from July 2, 2003)

By Jessica Nashold

Although the Centennial Jubilee was scheduled for Aug. 9-16, it was widely advertised in July. On July 12, 1953, four chartered buses, arranged by Marion Slaggs, picked up a crowd of Dog Patchers to attend a double-header at Comiskey Park between the White Sox and the Cleveland Indians.

Sox won both.

The Dog Patchers, many attired in overalls, old shirts and straw hats, were accompanied by a Hillbilly Band, made up of Bob Cotton, Earl Gray, Bill and Bob Politsch. Having provided Chicago papers were advance notice of their appearance, there were plenty of cameras on hand to note the Mendotans and their upcoming Centennial Jubilee.

Since the Jubilee was combined with the Sixth Annual Sweet Corn Festival, the Queen contest would be held Monday, Aug. 10. It was held in the Sweet Corn Bowl, which had been set up in the Kroger parking lot at the corner of Illinois and Monroe. There were 21 contestants and a new crown had been designed and created by Bernice Corrigan of the Mendota Sport Shop. After being crowned, the 1953 Queen would reign over many of the Jubilee events.

Narrators for Panorama, the pageant to be presented Aug. 13-14-15, were announced: Charles Hendrick, Walt Schuttler, Mrs. Joe Smith, Mary Lou Bruckner and Jim Rave. George Likeness provided scripts for Panorama, which was staged at the Tri-County Fairgrounds. Earnest Schlick directed the Show Band and Mrs. John Jarrell supervised the dance numbers. The first unit to go into rehearsal, in July, was “Hot Time in the Old Town,” performed by nine couples. Fifteen members of Little League and Pony League teams portrayed “Diamond in the Rough.”

On July 16, 1953, there was a Barbershop Quartet competition at the State Theatre. There were two entries from the Elks and one each from Kiwanis and Lions. The winners would appear again in Panorama. Lions Chance Fitzgerald, Murray Reeser, Henry Sauer and Bill Stockhus had that honor.

Both Black Brothers and Conco Engineering were advertising for help. Blacks wanted assemblers, machine operators and flame cutting torch operators. Conco was in need of both male and female assemblers and machine operators.

At a council meeting on July 6, 1953, a dispute between Tilton Industries and Walter E. Deuchler, city engineer, was settled. The amount agreed upon was \$1,200.

Although Tilton wanted the city to cut the weeds in Rolling Green, the city was not willing to use its mowing equipment there, because of debris. The city would, however, mow weeds in lots “free of debris” at the rate of \$5 per hour.

Both Rolling Green and the Gallagher Addition advertised in the July issues of The Mendota Reporter.

Thomas Jefferson must stand

By Rich Lowry

They’re coming for Thomas Jefferson.

Protestors in Portland, Oregon used axes and ropes to topple a statue of President Thomas Jefferson. The New York City Council is agitating to remove a statue of the author of the Declaration of Independence from its chambers.

At this rate, the Sage of Monticello will be lucky if the Jefferson Memorial isn’t bulldozed and if he isn’t effaced from the nickel.

Jefferson is, to use the argot of the day, the most “problematic” of the Founders. The Virginian was a slave owner who, despite his high ideals, never jettisoned an attachment to the slave system that was a hideous injustice and, in the fullness of time, nearly destroyed the country.

But that’s not what we honor him for.

Jefferson isn’t memorialized on the Mall in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere around the country because of the racist things he wrote in Notes on the State of Virginia.

He doesn’t have a place of honor in American history because of his (now widely accepted by historians) sexual relationship with one of his slaves, Sally Hemings, who was the half-sister of his late wife.

He isn’t held up as among our most exalted Founders because of his fear of slave revolts and his ever-closer association with the slave South as he grew older.

No, Jefferson is on a pedestal for achievements that still define the country today, and for the better.

He wrote the ringing lines in the preamble of the Declaration that eventually took on world-historical importance and were used as a rhetorical and philosophical cudgel against the slave system and white supremacy by the likes of Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King.

He was a theorist, champion and able practitioner of what we know as Jeffersonian democracy, “government of the people, by the people, for the people,” as Lincoln famously put it at Gettysburg.

He wrote the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom that became a model for the First Amendment, and he worked to abolish feudal relics such as entail and primogeniture.

As president, he doubled the size of the country in a stroke with the Louisiana Purchase.

He was a man of the Enlightenment, with incredibly wide-ranging interests from architecture to natural history and – in addition to serving as president, secretary of state and governor – founded the University of Virginia.

All of this speaks to his greatness, but none of it is to deny his miserable human failures and his woeful hypocrisy.

That Jefferson was deeply compromised by the slave system and yet rose above his own sectional and selfish interests to enunciate timeless principles should be considered an accomplishment, not a reason to relegate him to the ash heap. He always maintained that slavery was unjust and early in his career, tried to abolish slavery in Virginia and prohibit the introduction of slavery in new Western lands.

The woke philistines who are targeting him are incapable of thought or discernment and want to jettison much of the country’s heritage. A historian once said, “If Jefferson was wrong, America is wrong.” Those who want to grind his memory to dust clearly accept both parts of that formulation – and indict not just Jefferson, but the America he helped define.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Letters Policy

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

SPORTS

Willis claims prestigious sports award at Carthage

KENOSHA, Wis. – The Carthage College Athletic Department and each athletic program have announced their award winners for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Recipients of the Joseph F. Simmons Award are Elizabeth Willis, women's track & field, and Ivan Esquivel, men's soccer. Willis is the daughter of Brian and Colene Willis of Mendota, and is a 2016 graduate of Mendota High School.

This is the highest athletic honor a graduating senior can receive. It is awarded to one female and one male student-athlete who contributed the most to Carthage College Athletics during their entire career.

During an abbreviated senior season, Willis was named USTFCCA All-Midwest Region in both the shot put and weight throw, ranked fourth in shot put at 14.26 meters and second in the weight throw with a career-best toss of 19.28 meters, finished first in the shot put (14.07) and weight throw (18.59) at the CCIW Indoor Track and Field Championship, was named CCIW Field Athlete of the Week on Jan. 28 and Feb. 18, was named an All-American in both the shot put and weight throw by the USTFCCA and was named to the CCIW Winter All-Academic team.



E. Willis

IMSA joining Little 10 in 2021

EARLVILLE – The Little Ten Conference athletic directors and principals met on May 27. All schools were represented at both the AD/Principal meeting, followed by the Legislative meeting. During that meeting the Little Ten Conference voted to accept the Illinois Math and Science Academy into the conference beginning Fall 2021.

The Little Ten Conference was formed for the 1919-1920 school year. Founding members included Earlville, Hinckley, Leland, Paw Paw, Plano, Rollo, Sandwich, Shabbona, Somonauk, and Waterman. Current members include Earlville, Hi-

awatha, Hinckley-Big Rock, Indian Creek, LaMoille, Leland, Newark, Serena, and Somonauk. DePue will begin membership in August of 2020.

The Little Ten Conference Boys' Basketball Tournament has been held every season since 1920 and is the oldest conference tournament in Illinois. The tournament celebrated its 101st anniversary in 2020.

The Little Ten Conference currently sponsors the following sports and activities – boys' golf, boys' soccer, girls' volleyball, boys' and girls' basketball, baseball, softball, band, choir and Scholastic Bowl.

Keep drinks dry on the water this summer

SPRINGFIELD – As summer heats up and Illinoisans hit the water to celebrate Independence Day, Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Conservation Police Officers are reminding boat operators to always drive sober while on the water.

"When we talk about drunk driving, most people immediately associate it with getting behind the wheel of a car, but they should remember the same problems occur when boat operators drive drunk," said Lt. Curt Lewis, boating law administrator, Illinois Conservation Police. "Just like a car or truck, boats are large, heavy machinery that become extremely dangerous to operate when you're under the influence."

"Too often, boating accidents and fatalities in Illinois happen because boat operators are impaired while driving their watercraft," Lewis added. "We understand people want to enjoy the water with family and friends, we just ask that they do it responsibly. The safety of their family, friends and

other boaters depends on it."

Already this year, Conservation Police Officers have made 17 arrests for operating under the influence – 10 in June alone. Last year, Conservation Police Officers made 103 arrests for boaters operating under the influence (OUI). Additionally, Conservation Police Officers in 2019 issued 725 citations and 2,623 warnings in enforcement of Illinois boating safety laws.

Lewis said Illinois Conservation Police will be out in force during the Fourth of July holiday, not only checking for impaired boat operators, but also making safety checks on watercraft throughout the state.

Next to boating sober, wearing a personal flotation device – or life jacket – is one of the easiest ways to stay safe on the water. Illinois requires that properly fitting U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets or vests must be available for each person aboard a boat or other watercraft.

State law also requires that anyone under the age of 13 must wear a life jacket

while aboard any watercraft under 26 feet in length at all times the boat is underway, unless they are below deck in an enclosed cabin or operating on private property. Illinois law also requires persons of any age to wear a PFD while operating a personal watercraft or Jet Ski.

The IDNR offers boating safety courses that provide a review of boating laws and regulations, as well as instructions on safe and attentive operation of watercraft and encourages boaters of all ages to take a safety course. Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1998 must pass a course and have a valid Boating Safety Certificate to operate a motorboat (with over 10 horsepower).

While the IDNR normally offers free boating safety courses taught by volunteer instructors, those courses are suspended at this time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When the courses resume, schedules will be available on the IDNR website's boating information page. For a fee, online boating safety courses are available.



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Due to Covid-19 and the Health & Safety of our customers we will be using a LIVE-Online Bidding Platform for this Auction unless restrictions are lifted. The Auction to be held at the Tumbleson Auction Center, 1635 North Main Street, Princeton, IL, Located 100 miles West of Chicago, IL just off INT 80, Exit 56, South on Rt. 26. on:

SATURDAY, JULY 4TH & SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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SATURDAY, JULY 4TH

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MONDAY, 10 AM -

To appear in Wednesday's Reporter

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



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THE BACK PAGE

GARAGE SALES & NOTICES

BIG OUTDOOR SALE
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8 a.m.-3 p.m. both days.
Half price from noon-3 p.m. Saturday.
Furniture, clothing, tools, household miscellaneous, new name-brand clothing with tags.
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City ordinance

Grass clippings, etc. in streets

No person shall throw, place or leave, or cause or permit to be thrown, placed or left, any ashes, dirt, filth or rubbish, grass clippings, or foreign matter in or upon any street, alley or sidewalk of the City of Mendota.

Penalty: Any person violating this section shall be subject to the penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500. Imposition of any penalty for a violation of this section shall not be construed as a waiver of the right of the City to collect the cost of removal of such nuisance where it is necessary for the City to remove such nuisance.

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of **Mark Elston** would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support during this difficult time of losing our dad, son and brother. Special thank you to Merritt Funeral Home – Brett, Connie and Tom – for helping with our arrangements during this tricky time. Thank you to all our family for pitching in to help with calls, food, cleaning and offering shoulders to cry on. Thank you to all of Mark's friends, near and far, for paying your respects, whether in person, writing a note, sharing a story, calling or messaging to share your condolences. Tremendous thank you to all who have gifted a memorial in Mark's name to JDRC or MASS. Your generous and thoughtful gestures will help many. God bless.



IVCC names Support Staff Distinguished Service winner

OGLESBY—Crystal Credi of Peru is the 2020 winner of Illinois Valley Community College's Connie Skerston Memorial Award for Support Staff Distinguished Service.

Credi, administrative assistant in Student Services, was nominated by IVCC President Jerry Corcoran.

"Crystal shows up every day with a smile on her face and a commitment to service excellence in her heart. She enjoys being around people and no matter what anyone asks her to look into, she's always happy to oblige," said Corcoran.

Credi helps coordinate major Student Services events such as the academic banquet and commencement. A full-time employee since 2017, she started part-time in 2013.

"Crystal is a team player who arrives early so she can begin helping people change their lives," Corcoran said.

Credi provides information to students via podcasts available on IVCC's website at <https://soundcloud.com/user-857114290>. Among 20 podcasts, she has covered tips for de-stressing, career

services, financial aid, scholarships and more.

She earned her bachelor's from Illinois State University in May 2019 and is now pursuing a Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership from Lewis University. She graduated summa cum laude from IVCC in 2016 with AA and AS degrees.

"With her grit, determination and degree in hand,

there's no doubt Crystal is well positioned to eventually move into a key leadership position," Corcoran said.

Other finalists for the award – named in memory of former assistant director of admissions and records Connie Skerston who died in 2015 – were cashier Jill Hejl and Continuing Education administrative assistant Bonnie Jasiek.

POLICE BLOTTER

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED

Rodolfo A. Rodriguez, 42, of 205 Sixth St., Mendota, was charged with driving while license revoked after police officers made contact with Rodriguez in the 700 block of Pennsylvania Avenue at 7:19 p.m. June 22. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DOMESTIC BATTERY

A 17-year-old female was charged with domestic battery after police officers

were called to the 800 block of Main Street at 6:33 p.m. June 24. The subject was released.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Brayden C. Watkins, 18, of 1006 Fifth Ave., Mendota, was charged with criminal damage to property after police officers responded to the report of property damage in the 700 block of Main Street at noon on June 26. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

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SOCIAL SCENE

Master Gardener Q&A - Harvesting your summer herbs

By Meg Overocker, Master Gardener & U of I Extension Coordinator

OGLESBY - This season so far has been a boon for my herb garden! Around Mother's Day, I planted several herbs, including rosemary, oregano, parsley, cilantro, basil and sage, in an elevated raised bed. To date, I have harvested all but my rosemary and sage three times! Needless to say, I have enough pesto to feed an army already, and enough dried herbs to last me through the fall.

Whether you grow herbs in your landscaping, in your garden, in pots or in elevated beds, there is a proper way to harvest and preserve them. Today's article covers how to properly harvest herbs, as well as ways in which they can be preserved through drying for future use.

Harvesting: There is no specific date or month when you should begin harvesting herbs. It is best to begin harvest as plants become established (bushy) or if they are starting to become leggy and before any flower buds open. Often, as with cilantro, once they have flowered, the taste of the leaves will diminish, and the yield will quickly dwindle. I tend to harvest smaller amounts more frequently, rather than large amounts less frequently, in order to promote new growth and a bushy plant. If you notice the herbs are beginning to flower, be sure to snip off the flower head. This will "trick" the plant into sending out energy to create more leaves.

Leafy annual herbs, such as basil, cilantro and parsley can be severely cut back by cutting just above a leaf pair and leaving approximately 4 inches of stem for future growth. Perennial herbs, such as oregano, rosemary and sage, on the other hand, should not be cut back as heavily. Proper technique is to remove only about the top one-third of growth.

It is best to harvest in the morning, once the dew from the night has evaporated but before the sun is high and hot. Herbs will have the greatest concentrations of oils at this time, which means a stronger flavor during use as fresh herbs or if you dry them. Use a sharp, small pruning tool to harvest. I

use small pocket snips particularly made for herbs. These can be found at most garden centers or are easily found online. Be sure to clean the snips between plants so as not to inadvertently spread any disease.

Once you have harvested, it is always a good idea to wash herbs gently under cool water and set them on paper towels to dry before preparing them for drying or use in food preparation.



Drying: There are several methods used in drying herbs, but I will cover air drying and drying with heat. I have used both methods and have gotten very good results from both. As with anything, there are pros and cons with either approach.

The easiest and cheapest way to dry herbs is by air drying. On the "cons" list, you generally have to wait much longer for use of herbs dried this way. To dry whole branches or stems, bundle five to eight stems together (I prefer bundling less for quicker drying) and tie them with butcher's twine. Place them in a brown paper bag with the stems pointing out of the bag and hang the bag in a warm (70-80 degrees F) dark, dry room. I have done this technique without the bag, and hung them to dry in a closet, which has also worked well. It takes about two to four weeks to dry this way. Short stemmed herbs can be

dried on a drying tray, also in a warm, dark, dry place.

Drying with heat is the fastest way to getting herbs ready for long-term storage. One con with this approach is the cost of a food dehydrator, but some people use their oven and or their microwave for this method. Another negative is that if the herbs dry too quickly, they lose much of their flavor.

Most food dehydrators have an

"herbs" setting, which should be around 105 degrees F. Before placing on trays, be sure to snip off as much of the stems as possible getting all the leaves. Drying takes anywhere from three-six hours depending on the herbs, so be sure to check them frequently. To use your oven, place herbs on a cookie sheet in the oven at 180 degrees F for three to four hours with the door open. Be sure to check on them every so often so you do not over dry.

For more information on herbs, please visit the University of Illinois Extension "Herb Gardening" website at <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/herbs/>.

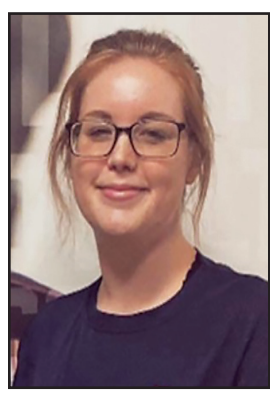
Have questions for us? You can e-mail them to meo@illinois.edu or call the Extension office at (815) 224-0889. Please note that due to the COVID-19 epidemic, offices are closed until further notice.

4H senior spotlight

LA SALLE COUNTY - The University of Illinois Extension Bureau, LaSalle and Marshall-Putnam 4-H is honoring the seniors of 2020. This week, they are highlighting Meghan Penoyer, a 4-H member of the Fox River Warriors and LaSalle County Federation.

Meghan's favorite 4-H projects over the years have been Rabbits and Dog Obedience. While in 4-H, she learned that no matter a person's social skills and openness to new things, everyone belongs and has the potential to be a strong leader.

When asked, Meghan said the 2019 4-H Fair was her favorite 4-H memory. Her advice to younger 4-H members, "You have to be persistent to actually see



Meghan Penoyer

results. Nothing can just change overnight, but you can make it happen over time."

Meghan plans to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Although Meghan wished to thank all 4-H volunteers, she noted, "Mary Jane Spinazola, Toni Pienta and Karen Pillion are my big three. Thank you for always being my stability through my spontaneous life."

Every Step Counts

Lunch & Learn online class & Walking Club Challenge

LA SALLE COUNTY - Every step does count. Studies show that using activity trackers gives people an accurate count for steps, heart rate, and sleep. They are also fun and get people off the couch and moving - a wearable piece of accountability.

With built-in reminders to get up and moving, activity trackers serve as a launching point for better health. Learn about different types of activity trackers, take a talk test, and set goals for yourself with University of Illinois Extension Nutrition and Wellness Educator, Susan Glassman. She will present research-based information on the benefits of using activity trackers for a healthy lifestyle. Get tips to get the most out of your activity tracker and join the Walking Club Challenge.

Everyone is welcome to join the online class, Every Step Counts, on July 22 from noon-1 p.m. Register online at <https://go.illinois.edu/everystep> to receive the meeting link.

Annual Larry Klein Memory Ride & Benefit postponed until 2021

LADD - Sadly, the 8th Annual Larry Klein Memory Ride & Benefit is being sidelined by the COVID-19 pandemic. With the guidelines for social distancing and the recently announced phases for Illinois, it is highly unlikely that by August an event with 200-plus people could be held.

This was an extremely difficult decision, but organizers felt it was for the best. They explained that many weeks are needed to plan stops, secure sponsors, arrange other details, and gather donations for the silent auction and raffle. Since this type of benefit cannot be thrown together in a short time, there was no real option to "wait and see."

Because it is important for the group to continue support of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), they will sell

shirts to raise money. The shirts are \$20 and this year, they will have a unique design. For

ordering details, please visit their Facebook page (Larry Klein Memory Ride & Benefit) or call (309) 363-8811.

Monetary donations made payable to AFSP will still be accepted and may be mailed to Tracy Wright, 110 S. Selby Ave., Ladd, IL 61329.

A donation site has also been set up on their Facebook page for secure online giving. Donations are tax-deductible.

AFSP is a 501(c)3 organization.

The group expressed their appreciation for all of the support and understanding that has been shown. In the past seven years, they have raised over \$40,000 for suicide awareness and they hope to see everyone in August 2021.



Paw Paw book club to meet at Community Building

PAW PAW - The Paw Paw "Read-Anything" book club will resume in-person meetings on Wednesday, July 15 at 7 p.m. with social distancing observed. The meeting will

take place downstairs in the Community Building.

The club welcomes everyone to come and share what they have been reading over the last five months, and what

they thought of those reads. Should be a variety of topics and genres to discuss.

Anyone with questions may call the Paw Paw Library at (815) 627-9396.

Independence Day reminder: Leave fireworks displays to licensed and trained vendors

SPRINGFIELD - The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is reminding organizations and individuals sponsoring fireworks displays in Illinois to be sure their fireworks vendors have the required state licenses and certificates issued by the IDNR and the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) prior to their planned fireworks shows.

The Illinois Explosives Act requires that anyone who purchases, possesses, uses, transfers, stores or disposes of explosives, including display fireworks, must have an explosives license and explosives storage certificate issued by the IDNR.

Licensing and storage requirements administered by the IDNR do not apply to Consumer Fireworks (classified as 1.4 explosives). Approved Consumer Fireworks are regulated by the OSFM and are permitted only in villages, counties and municipalities that have passed ordinances allowing such displays.

Consumer fireworks may be purchased and displayed only by adults who have obtained permits from their local jurisdiction. Handheld fireworks, including fire crackers, roman candles,

and bottle rockets are not approved for sale or use in Illinois.

The Illinois Explosives Act is administered by the IDNR Office of Mines and Minerals Explosives and Aggregate Division. The division is staffed by trained and experienced blasting specialists located throughout Illinois. In addition to requiring comprehensive licensing, training and examination for individuals, the law requires that unattended display fireworks and explosives must be stored in an explosives magazine, storage facility or container that is inspected and certified by IDNR.

IDNR currently has 2,502 individuals licensed for the use of explosives in Illinois, of which approximately 880 are specifically for the use of display fireworks. There are 746 certified explosives storage magazines in Illinois, which contain nearly 42 million pounds of explosives. Of those storage magazines, 104 are certified specifically for the storage of display fireworks.

Anyone possessing, using, transferring or purchasing display fireworks without a valid IDNR individual explosives license or stor-

age certificate is violating Illinois law and could incur penalties. A violation of the Illinois Explosives Act can be a Class 3 felony, with a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. In addition, the IDNR can assess administrative fines for violations involving display fireworks and other explosives.

Emergency responders are reminded to contact IDNR and the OSFM immediately with reports of personal injury or property damage resulting from the use of explosives, including display fireworks.

For more information on the IDNR explosives regulatory program, log on to <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/mines/EAD/Pages/ExplosivesHandlingStorage.aspx>.

For more information concerning the OSFM fireworks regulatory program, log on to <http://www.sfm.illinois.gov/Public/Consumer-Fireworks>.

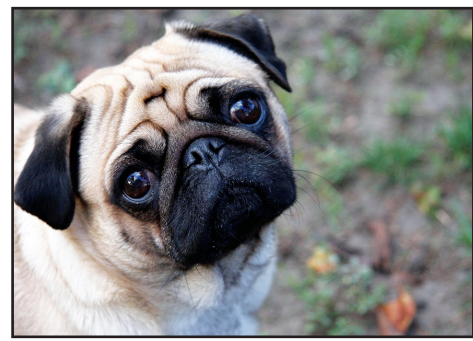
To report an explosives incident or accident concerning display fireworks, the public should contact the IDNR Office of Mines and Minerals Explosives and Aggregate Division at 217-782-9976 and the OSFM at 217-785-0969.



Gesundheit! Reverse sneezing in dogs

Snorts, yips, growls, and groans - pet dogs make a variety of sounds that can entertain or worry their owner, depending on the circumstance.

Though owners who have concerns about the health of their pet should always consult a veterinarian, Dr. Lori Teller, an associate professor in the Texas A&M College of



Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences (CVM), weighs in one of the many unusual noises a pet dog can make: reverse sneezing.

Also known as inspiratory paroxysmal respiration, reverse sneezing is caused by a muscle spasm at the back of a dog's mouth where it meets the throat. This spasm, which lasts around 30 seconds, causes a temporary narrowing of the opening of the trachea, making it difficult for the dog to inhale.

"A reverse sneeze is a sudden, involuntary respiratory reflex, but instead of forcefully expelling air out, like a regular sneeze, air is sucked into the nose with a series of rapid, forceful inhalations," Teller said.

Episodes of reverse sneezing can occur in any breed of dog, but Teller said they seem to be more common in brachycephalic, "smushy-faced," dog breeds like pugs, Shih Tzus, and bulldogs.

"A reserve sneeze sounds like a combination of a loud snort, honk, and choking noise," Teller said. "The dog may stand very still with their front legs and neck extended. The owner will notice their pet's chest and abdomen rapidly moving in and out."

While a reverse sneezing episode may be cause for concern for some pet owners, Teller wants owners to know that it is not painful or harmful for your pet.

"People are concerned that their dogs cannot get air and are suffocating or choking to death," Teller said. "However, it is much scarier to the owner than to the dog."

If pet owners find their dogs experiencing reverse sneezes, Teller says there are several techniques owners can use to calm their dog and get the episode to stop.

"During an episode, an owner can try speaking in a soothing voice while gently massaging the dog's throat," Teller said. "The owner can also gently blow in the dog face to make it swallow or gently open the dog's mouth and press down on the tongue to alleviate the spasm."

Occasional episodes of reverse sneezing are normal and are not of concern to the health of the dog, but always consult a veterinarian if your furry friend is experiencing respiratory symptoms that impact their ability to breathe or if reverse sneezing episodes are recurring.

"If your dog has chronic episodes or other respiratory issues, such as coughing, nasal discharge, or difficulty breathing, or just does not seem to feel well, then it's important to seek veterinary attention to determine if there are other problems going on," Teller said.

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University.

LOCAL AND AREA

State continued unemployment claims remain over 700,000

By **JERRY NOWICKI**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — The U.S. Department of Labor released statistics June 25 showing 705,878 Illinoisans received unemployment insurance for the week ending June 20.

While that was a decrease of 4,401 continued unemployment claims overall from the previous week, according to the data, the state still saw 46,005 new initial claims for the week ending June 20, an increase of 1,311 new claims from the previous week.

As the unemployment numbers remain high, Gov. JB Pritzker said last week the Illinois Department of Employment Security is continually trying to expand call center capacity to try to accommodate increased claim volume.

He also said each state agency and department “has a kind of a reopen plan that either has been developed or is being developed,” but did not say when IDES might start opening facilities for claimants having trouble getting through to a department representative.

“It sort of depends on the locations, it depends upon the number of people that would normally be in that space and so on. We have health guidance for people who work at IDES, just like we do any other business or that we’re trying to reopen,” he said.

In a statement last week, IDES also said the department has set up a virtual call center that has grown to more than 560, more than doubling its capacity since the beginning of this pandemic.

That has allowed the department to handle more than 50,000 additional unemployment claims and questions that have come through the call center between May 5 and June 4, according to the statement.

An IDES spokesperson encouraged claimants to use the department’s website — which had its capacity increased early during the pandemic — to file claims and

leave the phone lines for those who are otherwise unable to file a claim online.

“While we understand that claimants may be continuing to experience unique issues with their claims that require claims rep intervention, our upgrades have allowed us to process more than 1.4 million claims since March 1 and pay out more than \$7 billion in benefits,” the spokesperson said in a statement in response to questions of how a claimant can best get through to the department. “We understand that there are many cases where a claimant needs to speak to a representative to resolve an issue or make a change, which is why we are continuing to work to increase capacity.”

Pritzker said calls are also being separated by those who are seeking help in applying through online portals and those who would need assistance requiring them to provide private information. That frees up lines for those having unique problems, he said.

He added the administration has “tried to train” elected officials and their staff on “how they can assist people with their applications in the event that they’re having trouble getting through on the phone.”

IDES also announced last week it will borrow funds from the federal government to “continue to meet unemployment benefit payment obligations to claimants who have lost work as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.”

A press release from the department said the state joined eight others, which have either been approved to borrow or have begun to borrow money from the feds to continue to fulfill unemployment benefit payments.

“Through the end of June, IDES anticipates borrowing approximately \$300 million from the federal government through a long existing mechanism set up to enable states to continue to fund essential benefit payments when demand increases

unexpectedly,” the department said in a news release. “IDES has been approved to borrow up to \$3.8 billion through September 2020. During the 2008 Great Recession, the department borrowed \$1.4 billion, and it was repaid in five years through a joint funding agreement with Illinois’ business community.”

The department said the Unemployment Trust Fund is 100 percent funded by employer taxes, and the ability to pay back what is borrowed “has historically come in the form of an agreed rate change in employer taxes,” but IDES and the Pritzker administration are exploring other federal options, including calling for a federal stimulus aimed at replenishing unemployment reserves.

Since the pandemic began, more than \$2.5 billion has been paid out of the Illinois Unemployment Trust Fund in regular benefits. That’s on top of \$4.3 billion in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation benefits and \$290 million in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance benefits, both of which are two new fully federally funded programs.

IDES also announced the number of nonfarm jobs decreased in all 14 Illinois metropolitan areas since last year, with six metro areas at record low payrolls, according to preliminary data released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and IDES.

The May unemployment rate in Illinois was 14.7 percent, a record high for the month dating back to 1976. Nationally, the number was 13 percent in May, also a record high dating back to 1948. The unemployment rate identifies individuals who are out of work and seeking employment.

(Capitol News Illinois is a non-profit, 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 offering three mental health-related online seminars

OGLESBY — Three mental health-related seminars will be offered online this summer by Illinois Valley Community College’s Office of Continuing Education and Business Services in partnership with Kankakee Community College.

Sessions feature Mark Sanders, a licensed social worker and certified alcohol and drug counselor who has presented on behavioral health throughout the U.S., Europe, Canada, Caribbean and British Islands.

Sanders is the author of five books, most recently “Recovery Management and Relationship Detox: Helping Clients Develop Healthy Relationships in Recovery.” Sanders has had two stories published in the New York Times bestselling book series, “Chicken Soup for the Soul.”

The first session, “Mental Health & Wellness During the Pandemic,” 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, July 14, will offer techniques to “go from surviving to thriving” during a crisis such as Sept. 11, natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and pandemics such as COVID-19. These events, Sanders said, can traumatize, increase stress, and undermine our sense of well-being.

The session covers “whole person” wellness, the use of technology for social interaction, positive and negative emotions and activities, helping children cope, coping with panic, grief and trauma, and creating balance while working from home. It also includes lessons from astronauts on dealing with isolation. Cost is \$19. Course number CPD-3265-07.

Nurses, massage therapists, counselors, social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists,

nursing home administrators, dietitians, teachers and other professionals will earn two contact hours from the Illinois Certification Board.

“Effective Co-occurring Disorders Treatment” seminar, 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Aug. 20, will provide tips to engage clients with co-occurring disorders within the first five minutes of contact, retaining clients within the first two sessions, evidence-based approaches to improving outcomes and creating community and effective use of peers to increase retention and improve outcomes. Cost is \$29. Course number CPD-3266-08.

Nurses, counselors and social workers will earn three contact hours from the certification board.

“The Pursuit of Happiness for Mental and Addiction Professionals,” 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Sept. 15, explores happiness, identifies problems that may occur in its pursuit, and discusses healthy ways to create a more satisfying life.

It covers how happiness is seen as a basic American freedom and how it remains an elusive goal for many who have painful struggles including substance use disorders, depression, anxiety, and loneliness. It provides information on happiness from a therapists’ perspective, and issues such as professional burnout, compassion fatigue, and perfectionism. Cost is \$29. Course number CPD-3267-09.

Nurses, counselors and social workers will earn three contact hours.

Register online at ivcc.edu/onlineceec or by calling (815) 224.0447. For information, contact Cathy Buck at (815) 224.0490. After registering, participants will receive the link and the seminar password.

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If your child has a chronic condition, like asthma, they need to see their own physician.

PLEASE NOTE: No immunizations will be given if the walk-in clinics are used for physical exams. Immunizations can be done through your primary care provider.

Walk-In hours (if unable to see your primary provider)
M-F 8am - 9pm

(for both Midtown Health in Peru & Center for Family Health in Princeton)
Again, we encourage you to call your primary care provider's office first for an appointment.



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Celebrity Extra

You are correct in that the casts collectively have the voice of an angel. Donna Lynne Champlin, who plays Bloom's co-worker and friend on "Crazy Ex," earned rave reviews for her role in the Broadway revival of "Sweeney Todd," and Santino Fontana starred in "Tootsie" on Broadway and

— King Crossword —

Robert Pattinson, 34, will play Bruce Wayne in the upcoming movie titled simply "The Batman" and directed by Matt Reeves. It has an expected October 2021 release date. As for Michael Keaton, 68, who starred in Tim Burton's "Batman" in the early '90s, he's rumored to be making an appearance as his iconic character in "The Flash," the motion picture, not to be confused with the CW series of the same name. Talks are

FL 32803.
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8. MEASUREMENTS: How many standard bottles are contained in a magnum of champagne?

9. LITERARY: Who was the first official poet laureate of England?

10. HISTORY: Which treaty ended the American Revolution?

Answers

1. The Sandwich Islands
2. "Blue Hawaii"
3. Purplish red
4. Jonas Grumby
5. Sedimentary
6. Chile
7. Houseflies
8. Two
9. John Dryden

55	Saucy	11	Pensioned (Abbr.)	35	Underwear with underwire
DOWN		19	Lummox	36	"Monty Python"
1	Crooked	21	"— was saying ..."		opener
2	Director	23	Playwright	38	Dental filling
	Kazan		Pirandello	39	Untrue
3	Group of actors	24	Vallhalla VIP	42	Took the bus
4	Made a sweater, maybe	25	Memo	43	State with certainty
	Biz big shot	26	United nations	44	Gave temporarily
6	Eggs	27	Naomi's daughter-in-law	45	Garfield or Heathcliff
7	Oater				
8	Chaplin persona	28	Incised printing method	46	Blunder
9	Court sum-	32	Predatory sort		engine

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Today To Place

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— King Crossword —

LOCAL AND AREA

Are you living a life of love?

I have made it a priority to study about love in the Word of God. Getting a revelation about how much God loves me and learning to receive His love has been life-changing for me. It's been the key to being able to really enjoy my life because when I received God's love, then I could love others. And I've discovered that the best way—the only way—you can have a happy, powerful life is to get your mind off yourself and do something for someone else. Helping people, being a blessing and adding value to other people's lives is what it means to walk in love and follow the example of Jesus.

Ephesians 5:2 (NIV) says, "Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice

to God." Jesus—our perfect and holy Savior—gave His life for us, took all of our sin upon Himself, and shed His blood so we could have a personal relationship with Him and become the righteousness of God. That was His gift to us. Once we experience the gift of salvation, our gift to God is how we live our lives.

Jesus says in John 13:34, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." If we will learn how to follow this one commandment, everything else in our lives will fall into place.

Be a Good Samaritan

In Luke chapter 10, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan to demonstrate what it means to love God

and your neighbor as yourself. In verses 30-37, we read that a man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho "when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead."

A priest and a Levite both passed by him and neither stopped to help. Verse 33 says, "But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him." Notice that he "took pity on" this man. He had compassion for him and was moved to do something to help him.

He dressed his wounds and took him to an inn where he could get the care he needed. He paid the innkeeper and told him, "Look after him and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you



may have" (v 35).

There are a few things I want you to notice here. First, the Samaritan was traveling the road and was probably going somewhere he needed to be; he had a plan but he was willing to stop and help this man even if it meant his plan was interrupted. Also, he gave his best effort to make sure the man had good care and then paid for him to get it. He was obviously willing to pay whatever it was going to cost because he told the innkeeper, "When I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have." So he was planning to come back and make sure everything the man needed was covered.

This Is Love!

Jesus is showing us in this story what real love looks like. And 1 Corinthians 13 lists the characteristics of God's love: it is patient and kind, never envious, boastful or inflated with pride; it is not rude, does not insist on its own rights or its own way; it is not self-seeking, touchy or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it and rejoices when

right and truth prevail; love bears up under anything that comes and is ever ready to believe the best of every person; its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances...love never fails!

Now, if you're thinking, "There's no way I can live up to this list!" I want to tell you, "Yes, you can!" You can love others like this because as a born-again Christian, you have everything you need to be like Jesus. It's not always easy because we have to resist the temptation to be selfish, but 1 John 4:4 says that the Spirit of God, who is in us, is greater than our enemy. So in Christ, we have the power we need to walk by faith and live a life of love.

It's important to understand that God is not expecting you to be perfect in your love walk or to do it alone. He knows you can't do it without His help. What He wants is for you to seek Him through prayer and studying the Word, and as you do, lean on Him for the grace to do what He's asking you to do each day.

God is love, so you can rest in the truth that He is patient with

you, He's always with you, He believes in you and will not give up on you. And with God's love in your life, you can learn how to live a life of love!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's five-teaching CD series The Parables of Jesus – Part 2. 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 YOUR BATTLES BELONG TO THE LORD (Faith-Words). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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

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**SUNDAY: Worship
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Written by Thomas Merton, 1968:
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I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it
will end.
Nor do I really know myself, and
the fact that I think I am following
your will does not mean that I am
actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to
please you does in fact please you.
And I hope I have that desire in all
that I am doing.
I hope that I will never do anything
apart from that desire.
And I know that if I do this you will
lead me by the right road, though I
may know nothing about it.
Therefore will I trust you always
though I may seem to be lost and
in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever
with me, and you will never leave
me to face my perils alone.

Posted by Rev. Susan Presley

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

SUNDAY: Christian Education
Sunday Worship

WEDNESDAY

**VICTORY BAPTIST
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(815) 539-9081
.....
Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY
Sunday school
Worship

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service

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

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

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Sunday School
Worship
Evening Service

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

Rev. Steven Mindrup, Interim Pastor
E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

Website:
www.stjohnsmendota.org
.....
Schedule:
All activities and Worship services
are temporarily suspended until
further notice.

Find us on Facebook

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



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

DIGITAL SCHEDULE:
Sunday Worship:
www.facebook.com/fpcmendota
Live at 10 a.m. but can be viewed
any time

Sunday Fellowship:
https://us02web.zoom.
us/j/85746317823
To call in for audio only, dial
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting
ID: 857 4631 7823
Live Zoom at 11 a.m.
Let's catch up!

Wednesday Evening Gathering:
Live Zoom at 7 p.m.
https://us02web.zoom.
us/j/86402369150
To call in for audio only, dial
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting
ID: 864 0236 9150
Might be Bible Study, might be
fellowship, might be sharing.

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

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

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.....
Dave Manion ♦ Jim McDowell
Wayne Shuman
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Sunday Worship
Church Builders
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer
Saturday Men's Ministry
Non-denominational
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WORSHIP:
Worship services and all church
activities are cancelled until
further notice. Please check out
our website: www.ilccompton.org
or our Facebook page
for updates.

**COMPTON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
139 W. Chestnut
Compton
(815) 497-2491
.....
Pastor Dave Holden
pawpawumc@juno.com
Sunday Worship

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LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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4 miles west of Mendota on Rt. 34

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.....
Sunday Worship
Sunday School
Accessible

**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
La Moille
(815) 638-2348
.....
Pastor David Jungnickel
E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

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SUNDAY SCHOOL**
Nursery available

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

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
SUNDAY SERVICE**

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey
1. Is the book of Exodus in
the Old or New Testament or
neither?
2. From Esther 7, who met his
death on gallows that he built
for another man?
Herod, Haman, Jehu, Ezekiel
3. In Matthew 14, who tried to
walk on water but began
to sink?
Thomas, Paul, Peter, John
4. Which of these cities was de-
stroyed by fire and brimstone?
Jericho, Haran, Paphos, Sodom
5. What charioteer rode to
Jezreel to find King Joram?
Jehu, Omri, Naboth, Jethro
6. Where did Hagar meet an
angel?
Prison, River, Wilderness
spring, Temple door

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Haman; 3)
Peter; 4) Sodom; 5) Jehu; 6) Wilder-
ness spring
(c) 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE
And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the
Chaldeans' pride, will be as when God overthrew Sodom
and Gomorrah. It will never be inhabited, nor will it be
settled from generation to generation; nor will the
Arabian pitch tents there, nor will the shepherds
make their sheepfolds there. But wild beasts
of the desert will lie there, and their houses
will be full of owls... ISAIAH 13:19-21
Detail of medieval engraving
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The Merchants
on this page urge
you to attend a
house of worship
this week.

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Phone (815) 539-5656

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Phone (815) 539-7276

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Phone (815) 539-7211

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

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Phone (815) 539-6354

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Phone (815) 539-9394

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on June 22, 2020 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Natural Collective located at 4114 E 21st Rd, Sheridan IL 60551.
DATED June 22, 2020
Wendy Brown
Applicant
No.0603
(June 24, July 1, 8, 2020)

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

203 HELP WANTED

N E W S P A P E R CARRIERS Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For More Information.

301 ANTIQUES

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

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307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

315 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED JUNK Cars and Farm Machinery. Call 815-761-2803. (07-05-20)

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

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1-800-535-5727

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

INFORMATION

Office Hours:

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday-Friday)

Phone:

815-539-9396

Fax:

815-539-7862

Email:

acaylor@mendotareporter.com

Address:

703 Illinois Ave., Mendota

Mail:

P.O. Box 300
Mendota IL 61342-0300

DEADLINES:

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

All classified marketplace line ads will appear in the following 7 print publications and on 5 high-traffic newspaper websites:

• Rochelle News-Leader • Ogle County Life • Rochelle Shopping News • Ashton Gazette • Amboy News • Mendota Reporter • Mendota Money Saver

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

DISCLAIMER:

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

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2020 Buick Enclave AWD Avenir, WHite\$45,900

2019 GMC Terrain SLT AWD White.....\$24,900

2018 Chevy K2500 Crew LTZ 4x4, Z71, Diesel, Sunroof One Owner, Maroon \$48,900

2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4, Black\$37,900

2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, Maroon.....\$33,500

2018 Chevy Crew 1500 LT Leather, 4x4, Gray....\$31,500

2018 Chevy Malibu LT 15K Miles, Maroon\$19,500

2017 Chevy Crew LTZ Real Tree Edition, 4x4, Z71, Black.....\$34,900

2017 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT Crew Cab, 4x4, Sunroof Black.....\$33,900

2017 Chevy 1500 Crew 4x4, LT, Silver.....\$30,900

2017 Chevy Equinox, FWD LT, Sunroof, Blue\$16,500

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2015 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, Local 1 Owner Brown\$25,900

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The Mendota Reporter

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Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker

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NEW LISTING



4198 E 42nd Rd Mendota

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NEW LISTING



1309 Guiles Avenue Mendota

Enter this home on the newer BIG front porch to a cozy home with 3-4 BDR's, main level laundry, updated bathroom, and nicely sized kitchen with a door leading to the fenced backyard and deck.



If you are thinking about selling your property- Give us a call, we can help!!

Have Fun On The FOURTH

Happy 4th of July

from Becky, Rita, Jami and Lori



Rebecca McPheeters,
Designated Managing Broker.



Town & Country Realty

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Mendota**

(815) 539-6635
www.tcrealtysales.net

Evening Phone Numbers

Becky McPheeters, Designated
Managing Broker 708-220-3338

Rita Lilja 815-539-9255

Jami Bauer 815-993-7751

Lori Munson 815-228-4852

McConville REALTY & AUCTIONEERING



Joe McConville
Designated Managing Broker



612 S. Main St., Mendota, IL

815-539-5673

E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com

mcconvillerealtymendota@gmail.com

Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com

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

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker 815-910-5673

Marty McConville, Broker 815-200-2233

Richard McConville, Broker 815-539-5673

Sharon Kimrey, Broker 815-343-3600

Melody Nanzer, Broker 815-228-2842

Ryan Coss, Broker 815-830-8636



MLS# 10745613 3978
E. 1553rd Rd, Earlville, IL \$215,000. Great set up for horses or cattle 54 x 88 pole barn, one side finished, concrete floors with an office. High tensile fencing all the way around. 12 acres. Call McConville Realty for all the amenities.



MLS #10154460 \$74,900.
120-122 S. Ottawa St, Earlville, IL Great investment, 2 apartments, 1 penthouse & 2 storefronts, Each apartment has 2 baths, very nice spacious areas. Tenants would like to stay. Call McConville Realty for all the amenities.



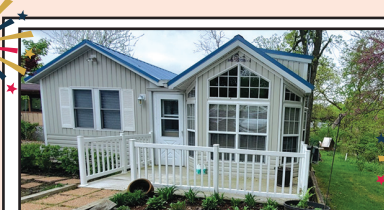
MLS #10154450 \$74,900.
139 W. Railroad St., Earlville, IL Multi use property. 6 apartments and a fully rented office space. Many upgrades have been made to the building. Ample parking. Call for all the amenities and income potential.



This home with take your breath away! Beautiful Kitchen with island and bar stools, eat in dining area, all appliances stay, first floor bathroom/shower with laundry room, family room an living room, gorgeous staircase and crystal chandelier. 4 bedrooms and 1 bath up stairs. Other features include an outdoor patio with fireplace for entertaining. Four out buildings used for storage and garage space! A tree house for the kids to slide down the slide or camp out in with bunk beds and has electric. Taxes reflect part of 36.48 Ac. RE Taxes to be determined once surveyed. Seller will survey off approximately 1.4 Ac for closing (Farm ground not for sale) ~Contingent upon Seller finding a home of their choice~
1196 Rockford, Amboy \$258,500



Common area to the rear, 3 season room with dura built roof, portable fireplace, all furniture included, front covered porch, back deck, gravel drive, skirting, central air and heat, water heater, gravel walk way with fire pit and chairs, patio furniture, shed with elec, one of a kind trailer that has a sliding door off the back bedroom, loft, all furniture and appliances, 2002 Lee Enterprise Park Model.
Sec 19, Lot 30 \$41,900



Absolutely beautiful and breath taking view of WOODHAVEN LAKE! IT DOESNT GET BETTER THEN THIS. Ready to move into a 2005 Breckenridge Park model with island and 4 bar stools, and room addition, all furniture and appliances, skirting, shed with some yard tools, patio with fire pit, deck with roof, common ground to rear and to the right of package, wide gravel driveway, landscaped, newer furnace, central air.
Sec 24, Lot 126 \$92,500

WOODHAVEN LAKES LISTINGS

Sec 1, Lot 125 REDUCED \$19,000	Sec 5, Lot 254 REDUCED \$34,500	Sec 13, Lot 88 REDUCED \$33,000	Sec 19, Lot 57 \$18,000
Sec 2, Lots 8 & 9..... \$34,900	Sec 5, Lot 418..... \$69,900	Sec 13, Lot 118..... \$15,000	Sec 19, Lot 88 PENDING \$42,000
Sec 2, Lots 64..... \$19,900	Sec 5, Lots 442 & 443..... \$72,500	Sec 14, Lot 61 & 62..... \$18,000	Sec 19, Lot 90..... \$46,000
Sec 2, Lot 96..... \$45,000	Sec 5, Lot 460 SOLD \$40,000	Sec 14, Lot 68..... \$17,900	Sec 22, Lot 152..... \$55,000
Sec 2, Lot 269 PENDING \$34,500	Sec 8, Lot 140 REDUCED \$23,000	Sec 15, Lot 92 CONTINGENT \$24,900	Sec 24, Lot 108 SOLD \$49,500
Sec 3, Lot 165..... \$37,000	Sec 9, Lots 118 & 119 REDUCED \$14,999	Sec 16, Lot 124..... \$17,800	Sec 24, Lot 126..... \$92,500
Sec 3, Lot 198 REDUCED \$10,500	Sec 10, Lot 106 PENDING \$8,500	Sec 16, Lot 144..... \$58,900	Sec 29, Lot 22..... \$55,900
Sec 3, Lot 229..... \$9,000	Sec 10, Lots 175 & 176..... \$105,000	Sec 16, Lot 209 REDUCED \$60,000	Sec 29, Lot 307..... \$9,999
Sec 3, Lot 240..... \$9,000	Sec 10, Lot 240..... \$26,900	Sec 17, Lot 167 REDUCED \$32,800	
Sec 3, Lot 241..... \$6,500	Sec 12, Lot 24..... \$24,500	Sec 19, Lot 29..... \$19,900	
Sec 5, Lot 130..... \$30,000	Sec 13, Lot 4 PENDING \$39,000	Sec 19, Lot 30..... \$41,900	

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